

V. 76
12

THE *Country* GUIDE

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- And It Came To Pass
- New Year's Eve Buffet
- Year End Review

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DECEMBER 1957

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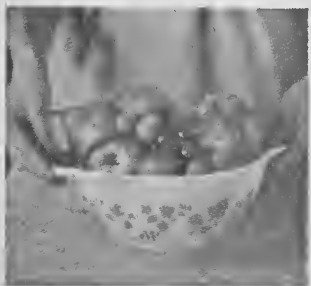


New PYREX Cradled Decorator Casserole, with beautiful black tulip pattern on white background, has smart, brass-plated cradle. Cover makes an extra serving dish, or may be used as a tile to protect the table finish. Holds 48 ounces. Only **\$5.95.**



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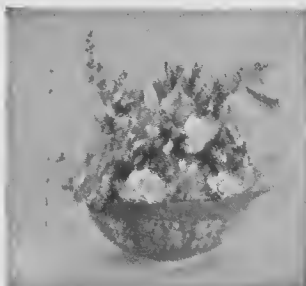
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● ON THE NIGHT OF THE 24th, Children will await once more a visit from Santa Claus, also known as St. Nicholas. A delightful story of a Dutch family and the kindly saint appears in the Home and Family section, on page 40.



● HOW HAS 1957 TREATED THE CANADIAN FARMER? The Country Guide asked Prof. W. E. Haviland, of Macdonald College, to cast an expert eye over the farm scene. We believe his comments on the past year's happenings will help the farmer assess the overall position — see page 11.



● DR. J. GREGSON has declared war on a small, but vicious eight-legged monster, which has become a serious menace to man and beast in Canada. Cliff Faulknor gives a fascinating account of this important development on page 16.

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A Child at Christmas—by Eva Luoma

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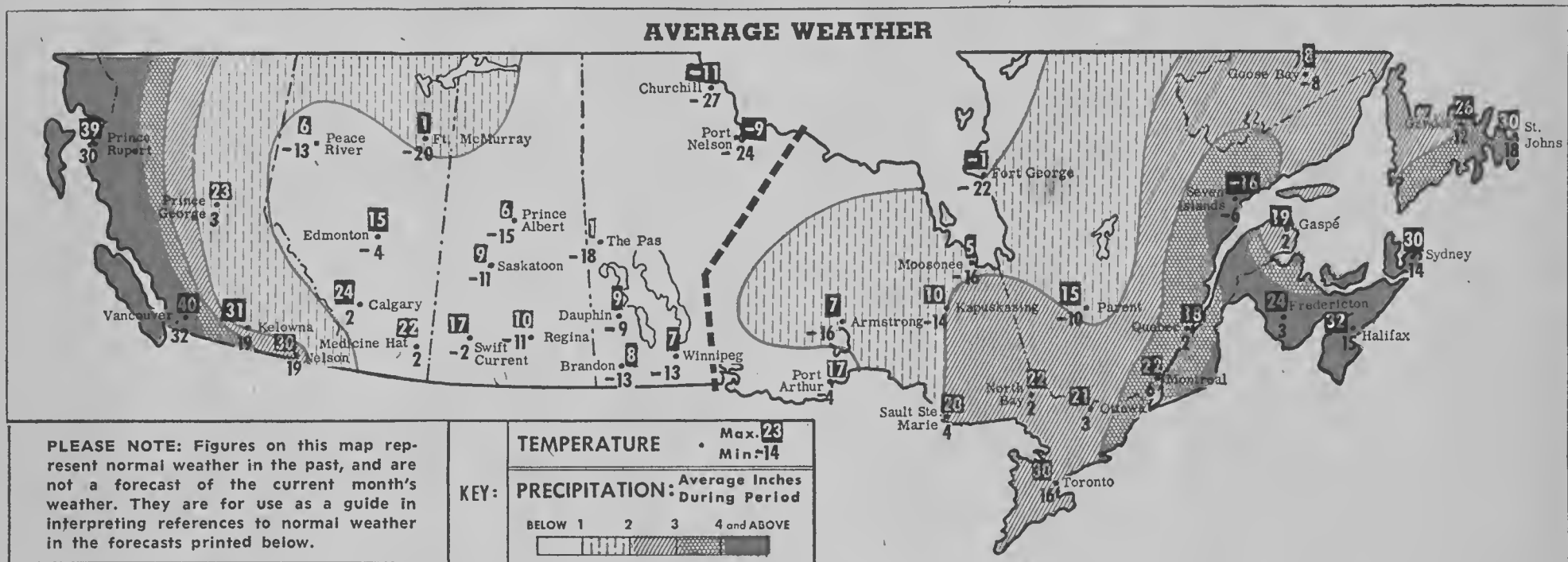
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and Associates(Allow a day or two either way in using this forecast.
It should be 75 per cent right for your area, but
not necessarily for your farm.—ed.)

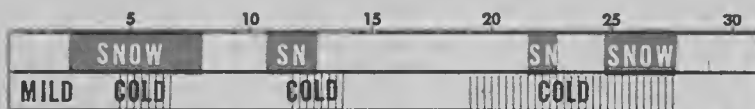
JANUARY 1958

Alberta

January will offer above normal temperatures. The month will open on a mild note, with daytime temperatures ranging from the 30's in the north up to near 50 in the southern portions. A cold period between the 4th and 7th will find temperatures dropping to as much as 20 below in the north, to slightly below zero in the south. The coldest outbreak will be centered around the 11th through the 14th, when temperatures will

range between 15 and 35 below over much of the province. A brief mild period after mid-month will find temperatures briefly in the 30's and 40's, followed by a sustained cold spell covering the last 10 days. The major precipitation period will consist of snows between the 2nd and 8th, with intermittent storminess likely between the 10th and the 13th, the 21st and 23rd, and again from the 24th through the 28th. Total moisture will be well above normal. ✓

PRECIPITATION
JAN.
TEMPERATURE

**Ontario**

Conditions will be below normal. Escaping much of the cold will be southern extremes of the province, where temperatures will range from near normal to slightly above. The month will be featured, however, by quite cold weather most days, particularly in the Abitibi area. Prime reason for warmer-than-normal averages in southern areas will be relatively mild weather during the final 10 days of the month. Most important

cold outbreaks will occur between the 8th and 11th, and again from mid-month through the 20th, when the mercury will range from near 35 below in the north to 10 below in the south. Frequently unsettled conditions during the first 20 days will give way to fairly stable, near normal weather during the last 10 days over the entire province. Precipitation will range from 50 per cent of normal in the west and north up to as much as 125 per cent of normal in the extreme south. ✓

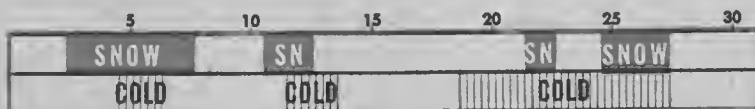
PRECIPITATION
JAN.
TEMPERATURE

**Saskatchewan**

The weather will be nice at the month's beginning, with temperatures reaching the upper 30's in the daytime, to be followed by the most important precipitation of the period. Snow can be expected between the 3rd and 8th—again between the 11th and the 13th—around the 22nd, and again following the 25th—bringing precipitation totals in western areas well above normal. However, moisture in eastern Saskatchewan will total only

near normal or slightly below. Major cold outbreaks can be expected around the 5th, again around the 12th, and through much of the latter part of the month—with temperatures sinking to 15-20 degrees below zero following the 5th; dropping to as much as 35 below zero between the 12th and 14th—and averaging well below zero during the final 10 days of the month. The lowest temperatures between the 19th and 29th of January will range from -25 to -36 at most stations. ✓

PRECIPITATION
JAN.
TEMPERATURE

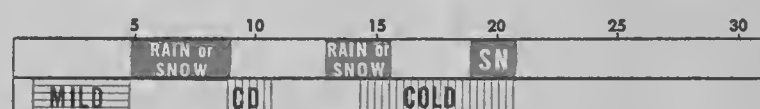
**Quebec**

January will open the year of 1958 on a mild, relatively warm theme in Quebec, when the temperatures will range into the middle to upper 30's at many locations. But a major period of precipitation beginning about the 5th and extending through the 9th of January will be followed by a cold outbreak, which will drop temperatures to as low as 15 below in the south to as much as 35 below in the north. Intermittent storminess is ex-

pected to occur between the 13th and 16th, and 19th and 21st of the month.

The month will close much as it opened, with near normal temperatures and no major precipitation on tap for the final nine days of the month. Over-all, this province will be from 2 degrees cooler than normal in the southwest, up to 4 degrees above normal in the north for the month—while precipitation will be slightly above normal everywhere, except in the extreme northwest. ✓

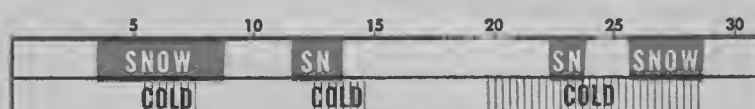
PRECIPITATION
JAN.
TEMPERATURE

**Manitoba**

Temperatures will be from as much as 4 degrees below normal in the east central regions up to slightly above normal in the western extremes of the province. Precipitation will be only about 75 per cent of normal in the west, with eastern areas due to receive only about 50-75 per cent of the seasonal normal snowfall. The major precipitation period will begin around the 3rd of the month, extending through the 8th—with minor

periods of snowfall likely between the 12th and 14th, around the 24th, and again following the 25th. Temperatures in the 20's at the month's start will give way to readings as low as 20 below zero following the 5th of the month. The coldest outbreak—around the 12th through the 14th, will find the mercury sinking to from 30 to 40 below zero, followed by a mild period around the 16th of the month. Cold weather, can be expected during the final 11 days of the month. ✓

PRECIPITATION
JAN.
TEMPERATURE

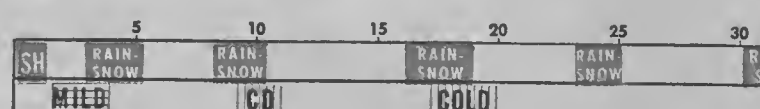
**Maritime Provinces**

Frequent periods of storminess in the Maritime Provinces through the month will bring up to 150 per cent of normal moisture to this region during January 1958, with rainfall amounts heavier and more important in the immediate coastal regions. Temperatures are expected to be warmer than normal for the month, ranging up to 2 degrees above the historical average, as a predominant southerly wind flow brings in warmth

to this area from off the Atlantic.

Intermittent storminess the first two days of the month will be followed by more sporadic rains around the 5th. Major rain periods can be expected between the 8th and 11th of January, and again between the 17th and 19th—with intermittent showers around the 23rd and rain on the 31st rounding out a rather damp month. Mild weather early in the month is predicted to bring temperatures near zero and below. ✓

PRECIPITATION
JAN.
TEMPERATURE



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**All new for '58 ...built tougher...
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setting dual headlamp system that looks smarter . . . lights your way better, more safely.

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• **New!** An advanced rear suspension system on the light-duty model often

used for both work and family travel. Springs automatically adjust to varying load weights. You get the same smooth ride whether the truck is empty or fully loaded.

Now Fargo brings you these, and a host of other new ideas and improvements to make even toughest jobs seem simple. New Fargo Power-Masters are the easiest-working trucks you've ever used!

Fargo introduces, too, a new trend in truck styling. A bold look to match the bold leadership trucking has assumed in modern life.

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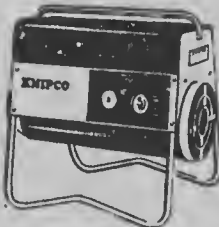
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"The Thrifty
Fifty"**

**Model
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GUIDEPOSTS

UP-TO-DATE FARM MARKET FORECASTS

WHEAT EXPORTS have experienced no major break, but prospects are brighter--some Canadian wheat will help close gaps left by exceedingly small Australian crop. Markets often develop in spring when European crops are used up. Look for more sales activity with Asian countries.

GOOD YEAR FOR CATTLEMEN appears in the making for 1958 if consumers' income remains high. The U.S. market will absorb temporary surpluses as they occur and price trend is likely to be up.

HOG PRICES remained profitable during November; the anticipated sharp increase in marketings has not yet taken place. It's still a guess, but higher prices for good quality beef early in 1958 may cause consumers to eat more pork, and this, coupled with increased sales to the U.S., should stabilize prices during this period.

FEED GRAIN picture--western supplies down and eastern up. Consequently, sales to the East will be slack until farm holdings are whittled down. Overall supplies are down some 5 per cent.

CORN CROP is of record proportions this year. With prices feeling influence of monumental U.S. corn and feed supplies, chances for improvement are slim this fall and winter.

RYE MARKETS affected by strong wheat competition, have been extremely sluggish. Increase in delivery quotas may help to get crop off farms but prospects for price improvement are poor.

FLAX PRICES reflect low Canadian production and relative scarcity of world supplies. Prospects now hinge on Argentine crop where acreage increased but growing conditions are spotty. Large supplies of substitute oils will prevent runaway price increases; however, steady marketings for the next few months will help keep prices buoyant.

PRAIRIE GRAIN ADVANCE PAYMENT ACT is now the law of the land. Scheme will relieve extremely tight cash situation but do little to solve basic problem of more sales at higher prices. If eligible, take advantage of the plan since the advance is interest free.

SHEEP AND LAMB marketings may be off slightly in 1958. The domestic market is expanding slowly and probably 30 per cent of the roasts and chops will be imported from New Zealand, Australia and the U.S.

BROILERS continue to find a niche in housewife's market basket, and production was greatly increased to a quarter over last year's. Although prices will likely remain low, consumer demand will encourage further expansion next year.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

QUALITY OF WHEAT
AND BARLEY CROPS

A wheat crop of excellent milling and baking quality was produced in western Canada this year, according to a report of the Board of Grain Commissioner's Laboratory. The protein content, estimated at 14.1 per cent, is higher than for any crop since 1947. Baking strength is high, carrying power is very good, and dough handles exceptionally well. The new crop represents a return to the strong wheats Canada harvested continuously in the dry periods of the late thirties and early forties. Percentages of the crop entering each of the top grades are expected to be about as follows: 3, 20, 35, 30 for Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4 Northern, respectively. About 12 per cent will fall into the lower grades.

The 1957 barley crop is about average in malting quality. Nitrogen content is higher and bushel weight is lower than last year's crop. Enzymatic activity is high for the malting grades, which is a characteristic desired by maltsters.

MORE OF THE SAME IN '58

The Agricultural Marketing Service of the USDA forecasts that prices and incomes to farmers in the United States, which have improved the last two years, are likely to average much the same in 1958 as in 1957. The outlook is for the present heavy supplies of farm commodities, the strong domestic demand for food, and the high level of exports to continue into 1958. The Service does predict, however, that nonfarm income to farm people, which now accounts for about one-third of their total income, will rise further next year, and that the long-term trends toward fewer farms and fewer farm people will continue.

B.C. TREES TO TEXAS

Cutting Christmas trees provides extra income for many farmers in the interior valleys of British Columbia. Below cattleman C. W. Prevost (left) and sheepman Art Blackwell (right),



[Guide photo

of Monte Creek, B.C., stopped unloading a fresh batch of trees at a railway siding long enough for The Country Guide to take their picture. The trees are bound for Texas, U.S.A.

TOBACCO TO BE AUCTIONED

Commencing Dec. 2, Ontario tobacco growers have been offering leaf

without an established minimum price for the second time in more than 20 years. This resulted from a decision of the Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers' Marketing Board to offer the total crop, estimated at 150 million pounds, by the Dutch Clock Auction method. Sorted leaf will be presented to prospective buyers in bales which will be classified according to standard grades. The decision was reached after the Board received word that the tobacco buyers were not prepared to proceed with arbitration on a minimum price until December.

1957 FINAL CROP ESTIMATES

On the basis of yields indicated in mid-October, when harvesting was nearing completion, production of most of Canada's principal field crops in 1957 was well below last year's levels. Here are the DBS estimates and the comparisons for all Canada in millions of bushels.

	1957	1956	1947-56 Av.
Winter Wheat	19.6	20.0	21.3
Spring Wheat	353.9	553.1	465.3
All Wheat	373.5	573.1	486.6
Oats for grain	384.6	524.4	392.3
Barley	220.0	269.1	207.3
Fall Rye	7.3	5.8	12.5
Spring Rye	1.2	2.8	4.9
All Rye	8.5	8.6	17.3
Flaxseed	20.0	34.5	13.7
Mixed Grains	63.3	66.6	58.3
Corn for Grain	29.6	27.8	18.6
Buckwheat	2.2	3.2	3.0
Dry Peas	1.4	1.8	1.0
Dry Beans	1.1	1.1	1.3
Soybeans	6.5	5.3	3.7

Rapeseed production is estimated at a record of 454.7 million lb., up sharply from last year's estimate of 300.5 million. Mustard seed production is placed at 71.1 million lb., compared with the 1956 crop of 133.3 million. Sunflower seed output in Manitoba rose from 16.5 million lb. in 1956 to 19.2 million in 1957.

ONTARIO MINISTER
CALLS FOR UNITY

In probably his strongest speech since becoming Minister of Agriculture in Ontario, Hon. Wm. A. Goodfellow called on all farmers to get behind their farm organizations and marketing programs. In addressing over 400 delegates at the Ontario Federation of Agriculture annual meeting in November, he made these key points:

- If ever there was a need for farmers to have a strong, united voice, it is now. There was no place in the province for two general organizations, each trying to represent the farmer and his interests.

- Commodity groups would benefit from belonging to the Ontario Federation of Agriculture. Organized agriculture in the province is only as strong as the parent OFA.

- Farm organizations must get out and sell the advantages of organized marketing to back concession farmers. These people must be told what farm organizations have, are and will be doing on behalf of farmers.

- Farmers should support their own marketing boards in votes this winter. Self-help programs are the most effective ones for farmers over the long run, and they should not be allowed to falter or slip backward.

- Farmers in Ontario now have power to do just about anything they

'GROWING POPULATION BIG MARKET FOR DAIRY FOODS'

—DAIRY FARMERS OF CANADA

This year Canadians will consume about 17 billion pounds of milk in one form or another. With the home market now bigger than ever—and increasing every year—you might think that dairy foods would sell themselves. Not so.

While there's been a good market for dairy foods in Canada for many years, that market has not always been easy to maintain.

Rapid industrial growth in recent times brought with it ever increasing competition for the Canadian food dollar.

To meet this competition each year since 1950, the Dairy Farmers of Canada have been conducting an extensive advertising and sales promotion campaign in 84 daily and 270 weekly newspapers, 6 magazines, 18 trade papers, 25 farm papers and over 14 French network radio stations.

Advertising has helped maintain and increase consumption.

One of the big jobs our advertising has done is to keep our regular customers aware of the value of milk and milk products in their everyday diet so they would continue to use these products. Of course, the advertising did much more than this. It urged them to use more dairy products every day. It kept them informed about new products and new uses for existing products. In this way, it helped increase the consumption of our regular customers.

Advertising helps insure the continued rise of consumption.

Nearly 40% of the population of Canada—more than 6 million

people—are under 20 years of age. And this number is increasing every year. Part of the job of our advertising is to keep reminding these young people of the nutritional value of dairy foods, so they'll continue to use them as they grow older.

Advertising helps put dairy foods in new households.

Each year approximately 160,000 new households are established in Canada. It's important to see that these new households get off to the right start by using plenty of dairy foods in their daily diet. Most of these households soon have children. It's the job of our advertising to keep reminding the parents that their children need milk and other dairy foods regularly and often.

Advertising introduces dairy foods to new faces at the table.

Every day Canada's population is increasing by about 1100 people. Many of these new faces appearing at the Canadian table are New Canadians. And many of them come from countries where milk and milk products are not as common a staple of the daily diet as in Canada. It's important to acquaint these people with the value of dairy foods that are so readily available here. Advertising does this job, too.

So you see that advertising has a big job to do. Our advertising has been doing that job well for many years. But it's a never-ending task. We must constantly educate, inform and remind the Canadian public of the value of dairy foods in their regular diet.



DAIRY FARMERS OF CANADA

409 Huron Street, Toronto



KEEP THE QUALITY YOU BOUGHT ASK FOR A *Power Punch* BATTERY

Quality-engineered Power Punch Batteries give you extra power, added "kick" for positive "flash" starts even on coldest days.

Power Punch Batteries have built-in power reserves to provide for modern-day electrical demands under all driving conditions.

Insist on a Power Punch Battery. See your Ford-Edsel or Mercury-Lincoln-Meteor Dealer or any leading garage that features Genuine Ford Parts.

INSTALLED BY
GOOD SERVICE GARAGES
EVERYWHERE

MADE RIGHT..
TO FIT RIGHT..
TO LAST LONGER!



PARTS AND ACCESSORIES DIVISION, FORD MOTOR COMPANY OF CANADA, LIMITED

WHAT'S HAPPENING

like in marketing their own products. Farmers could be trusted not to abuse such power. Mr. Goodfellow warned that agriculture will remain depressed if farmers fail to take advantage of the amended legislation aimed at assisting them to develop effective marketing plans.

• Business and industry in Canada have been built up on the basis of tariff protection. This policy of protection should be extended to include agriculture. Protection against dumping is absolutely essential. V

DAIRY FARMERS PROMOTION

Dairy Farmers of Canada will spend \$375,000 promoting dairy food consumption in 1958. This expenditure was authorized recently by the organization's executive committee. It will insure that the eight-year-old national promotion program will continue along much the same lines as previously. The only shift in the 1958 program will involve cheese promotion in March instead of butter. This change was made because the butter stocks situation has righted itself, and because extra stocks of cheese are anticipated at the beginning of the year. The full 1958 advertising schedule will be: February, evaporated milk and milk powder; March, cheese; April, milk; June is Dairy Month; October, cheese; and November, butter. V

PROPOSALS ON GRAIN AT U.G.G. MEETING

The export grain trade, the International Wheat Agreement and government grain policy were among the important items dealt with at some length in the annual report of the United Grain Growers Limited, which was presented to the Company's annual meeting in November.

Suggestions which were made in the report to meet the current grain marketing difficulties included the following:

• To bring the practice of subsidized wheat dumping under some degree of control by agreement between

different nations should be a major objective both of Canadian farm organizations and of the Government of Canada.

• Based on the belief that the International Wheat Agreement has exerted little if any influence on the course of events in the international movement of this commodity during the past year, efforts should be made to devise an instrument of greater value before the next International Wheat Conference takes place. The report suggested specifically that, in future, guarantees to importing countries of some protection against unreasonably high prices in periods of scarcity might be contingent upon the actual volume of purchases made by such countries during other periods, or they might be extended only to such countries as are willing to resist the dumping of subsidized wheat into their markets.

• New approaches to the sales problem must be evolved and new sales techniques devised to bring about greater grain exports than Canada has recently had, in order to recapture a satisfactory share of existing world grain trade, and to effect shipments of grain into new or expanded markets.

• The Canadian Government, which is primarily responsible for marketing Canada's wheat surplus, might manage to check erosion of historic Canadian markets by a firm announcement to certain competitors that this country does not intend to be driven from the field. If this does not prove effective, the report suggests that an actual demonstration by competitive selling, even at cost to the Government, has possibilities. V

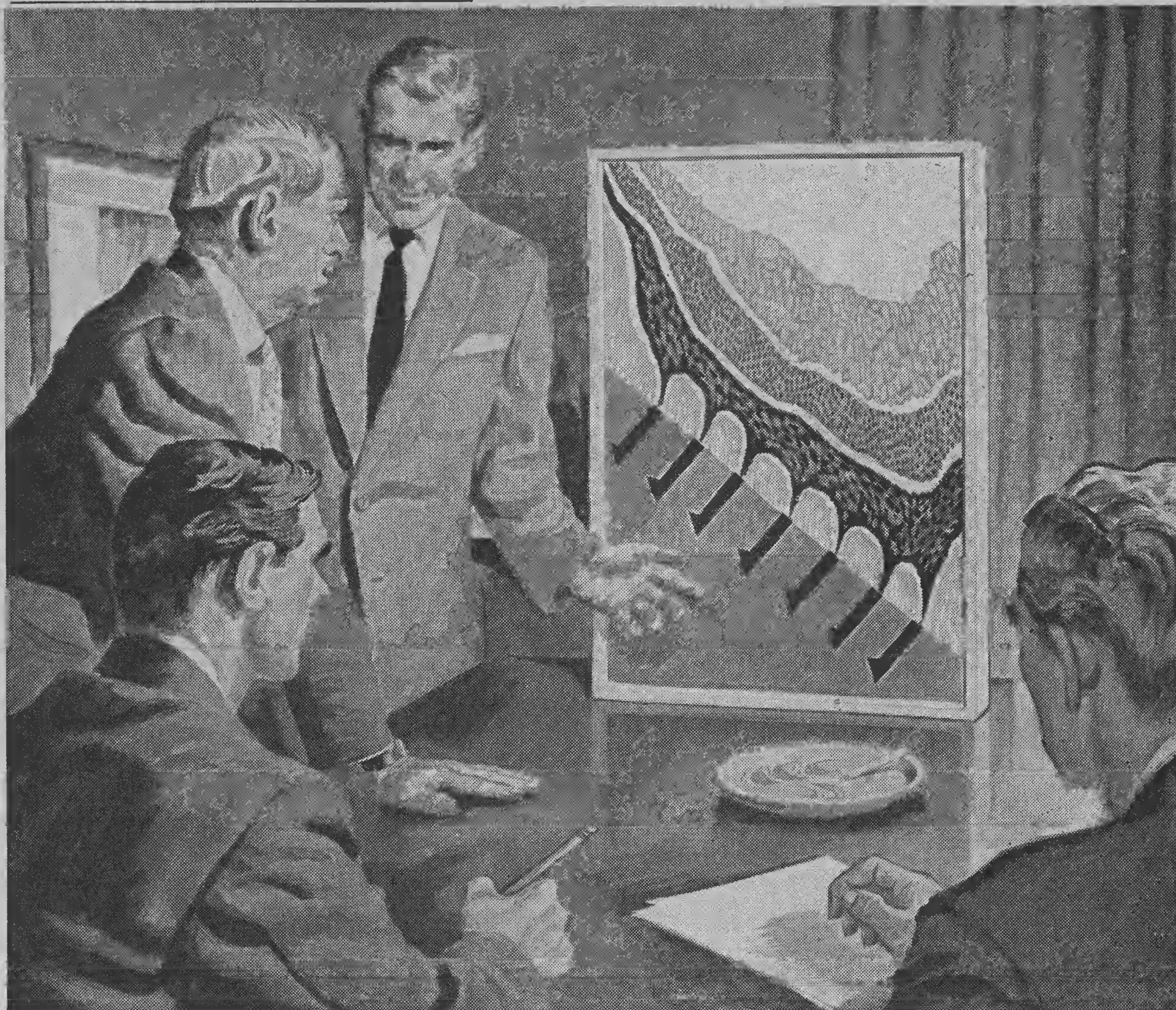
NATIONAL 4-H CLUB WEEK

Delegates attending the 26th National 4-H Club Week during the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair elected the Junior Council (pictured below) to assist in the direction of the week's program in Toronto and Ottawa. They were the guests of the Canadian Council on 4-H Clubs. The delegates, numbering 168, included 4-H members and supervisors from all provinces. V



Junior Council at 1957 National 4-H Club Week. Front row, l. to r.: Marion Huggard, Norton, N.B.; Rosemarie Wenger, Egremont, Alta.; May Andrews, Chilliwack, B.C.; Mary Steer, Stockton, Man.; Georgia Morrison, St. Georges, P.E.I.; Patricia Frizzle, Brome, Que. Back row, l. to r.: Ken Naber, Whittome, Sask.; Roy Boucher, Havre Boucher, N.S.; Kevin AuCoin, St. Georges, Nfld.; Geo. Greenless, Campbellville, Ont. They represent the best of Canada's youth.

Inco Research helps Canada grow



This scale model of an orebody at Inco's Creighton Mine is made of layers of coloured sand and gravel. The dark layer near the bottom

represents the higher grade ore; above are layers of lower grade ore and waste rock containing little or no ore. By shifting the flow of these

sands, Inco was able to study and adapt an unusual method of low cost mining to this ore, making its recovery economical.

Through **Inco Research** lower grade ores are mined economically

At Creighton Mine near Sudbury a large body of lower grade ore was known to exist. It promised to be an important source of nickel and copper—if it could be mined economically. But how to get this ore out at a cost low enough to be commercially practical?

Intensive study went into the problem. Underground tests were made. Observing that the earth above the mined-out orebodies had begun to settle, Inco mining engineers suggested the possibility of mining the lower grade ore by induced settling. Ore would be cut away from the

underside of the orebody. As the support for the ore and rock above was removed, the mass would begin to settle causing the ore to break up so that it could be drawn off and recovered. The idea sounded good.

Scale models were built to determine how the ore could be drawn off from below without getting the waste rock above the ore. Then the method was tried in the mine. The results were so promising that regular mining operations were begun. Today, Creighton Mine is producing 12,000 tons of this lower grade ore daily. And Inco Research did it!

INCO SCHOLARSHIPS

Available For High School Graduates

To help capable and deserving high school and preparatory school graduates get a university education, Inco has established 100 four-year scholarships in Canadian colleges and universities. Twenty-five scholarships have been awarded for the academic year 1957-1958 and twenty-five will be awarded for each succeeding year so that all 100 scholarships will be in effect by September, 1960. For complete information, write for free brochure on THE INCO SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME.



THE INTERNATIONAL NICKEL COMPANY OF CANADA, LIMITED
55 YONGE STREET, TORONTO

Producer of Inco Nickel, Nickel Alloys; ORC Brand Copper, Tellurium, Selenium and Platinum, Palladium and other Precious Metals; Cobalt and Iron Ore.

NEW PERFECTION GREATER SELECTION

**HANDIEST, HEFTIEST TRUCKS ON ANY ROAD...
GMC EXTRA-VALUE MONEY-MAKERS FOR '58**



Smart new functional styling

Dual headlights, new trim and new grille are just the beginning of GMC's smart, practical new styling. The windshield is bigger and wider—gives you an all 'round better view of the road ahead. Wide, wide fenders help the driver in turning and parking. And even in the smaller details, GMC styling surpasses them all.

A GENERAL MOTORS VALUE

Brand new Utility Panels

The most exciting newcomers to the GMC lineup in many a long day. GMC's new Utility Panels are exactly what truckers have been asking for . . . Forward Control models with steel van-type bodies in 8 and 10 foot lengths. Gross ratings go up to 10,000 pounds. And smaller wheels and tires give low loading and step heights.

GVW's up to 36,000 pounds

Gross vehicle weights go to new highs to give GMC a commanding lead in the heavy-duty field. Up to 36,000 pounds GVW is now available in W-91000 Series . . . ruggedly-built trucks that can really take a pounding from both the load and the road. Check body styles and features at your GMC dealer's.

New Workmaster "348" V8

This new V8 will spark a revolution in truck engines . . . a power plant that develops 230 horsepower and has a governed engine speed of only 3700 rpm. The engine works easily, without straining, gives you plenty of power with less wear and tear. New cylinder head and piston designs also help to increase engine efficiency.

Improved Powermatic

Powermatic was last year's big news in transmissions . . . an automatic unit that brought new ease and convenience to truck handling. And, in addition, Powermatic's exclusive Hydraulic Retarder made it safer on hills than any other. Now, Powermatic goes itself one better with the addition of an extra range for city conditions.

THEY'RE here . . . and how! A brand-new crop of GMC Extra-Value Money-Makers with a raft of rugged improvements that make them really big news in trucking. Some models offer a new 9000-pound front axle for even bigger loading performance . . . there's a bigger-than-ever range of GVW's—up to 36,000 pounds . . . there are new engines, new styling, new handling ease.

In fact, there's a whole host of new reasons why *you* should make GMC pave your way to bigger profits. Your nearby GMC dealer has all the answers to your trucking problems. See him—soon!

Full Air Brakes

Extra-large brake shoes mean safer, surer stops when they're powered by GMC's new full-time compressed air changers. Optional at slight extra cost on Heavy Duty models.

GMC FOR 1958

YEAR END REVIEW

How Farmers Fared as Canadian economy leveled off

by W. E. HAVILAND

A YEAR ago, Canadian farmers had some cause to hope that the worst was over. Farm income in 1956 was up substantially over 1954 and 1955. The recovery in 1956 was mainly in western grains and, to a lesser extent, in animal products, but it was definitely a better year for agriculture. This year, however, farming has not only failed to make further gains over 1956, but it has suffered a relapse.

ECONOMY LEVELS OFF. Agriculture's latest setback has coincided with a leveling off of the Canadian economy as a whole. The value of Canada's total output (gross national product) remained throughout the first half of 1957 at \$30.7 billion. Since this figure contains an inflationary element, the physical volume of production must have contracted.

This interruption in the steady growth of the economy in postwar years may not have been transmitted to farming yet. Farm product prices at wholesale and terminal markets leveled off in August and then dropped back in September, but this could have been a combined seasonal-cyclical adjustment. Consumer demand for food seemed active this year. There was a large increase in population, due mainly to an almost unprecedented rate of immigration. Increased unemployment has not yet reversed the normal but recession-sensitive trend of labor out of agriculture. If the economy resumes its forward thrust next spring, the impact on agriculture of the present "breather" might be mild and temporary.

The economic situation bears close watching, however. If its present state of indecision were to deteriorate into a recession, much harder times would lie ahead for agriculture. The postwar boom may have demonstrated that agricultural prosperity is no longer a prerequisite for general prosperity, but the reverse remains as true as ever—general prosperity is essential for agricultural prosperity.

SUMMARY FOR 1957. Reviewing Canadian agriculture in 1957, in the broadest economic terms, I would say that, although cash farm income may not differ greatly from that of last year, net farm income (which is what really matters) will definitely be lower, due to the continuing rise in expenses. More specifically, net farm income in 1957 will be lower than 1956's level of \$1.6 billion. Expressed as a proportion of net national income, net farm income this year may fall to 5 per cent. Price parity (prices received by farmers in relation to costs paid) may also reach a new low before the year is out. Costs of marketing food have risen and so the farmer's share of the retail food dollar is probably the lowest in postwar years.

Prices of animal products (still speaking generally) were firm through to August and dairy products continued strong, but grain prices slipped badly. There were rises in the prices of commodities and services bought by farmers for production and living. In August this index was 2.1 per cent

higher than a year earlier. Farm wages reached a new peak this year, but this was nearly offset by the decline in numbers of paid farm labor. The total feed bill will be smaller this year because feed prices were lower, especially in Eastern Canada. Farm equipment sales are likely to be lower, but the sales of fertilizer, lime and pesticides will be up again this year.

The physical volume of farm production in Canada will be lower than last year, with a substantial decline in prairie grains being only partly offset by increased production of livestock and poultry products, and fruits and vegetables.

There was a notable decline this year in exports of agricultural products, especially grains. The total value of all agricultural exports in the first seven months of 1957 was \$693 million (22 per cent of all exports), compared with \$805 million for the same period last year (26 per cent of all exports).

FARM POLICY APPRAISAL. Having presented this brief summary of the general and agricultural economic situation, and before moving on to discuss in more detail the commodity by commodity situation, it would seem appropriate to make a few remarks about some of the more important farm policy decisions arrived at during the year.

It looks as if the Senate Committee on Land-Use which was set up in January of this year, and which was a special concern of the Liberal Prime Minister, has been shelved by the new Government. There is genuine need for study of programs for conserving our soil, forest and water resources and for dealing with submarginal farming. Is no one to grapple with these problems now? They are too important to be political casualties.

On the other hand, the South Saskatchewan River Project has been taken down from the shelf and is soon to be set in motion. Among the welter of claims and counterclaims that hitherto raged about this project, its essential merit as a regional welfare development seems to have been smothered by unworthy inter-provincial rivalries.

The Diefenbaker government has (I think wisely) withdrawn from its original position of all-out support for parity. A new (and not so different) Prices Support Act is being substituted. Certain "basic" farm commodities are to be named in the Act, with provision for extension of price supports to other products. The maximum total support will be raised by \$50 million to a level of \$250 million.

A crucial feature in the success of price supports in Canada has been the restraint and good sense of its administrators. They should, therefore, be left with substantial discretionary powers. Human nature being what it is, the more systematic and specific is the legislative framework, the more likely it is that constant pressures will be brought to bear to invoke it. Administrative responsibility would be undermined. With the farm vote at stake, such pressures may prove irresistible.

(Please turn to page 30)



GRAIN EXPORTS DOWN



MORE CATTLE SOLD



HOG MARKETINGS LOWER



DAIRY INCOME HIGHER



POULTRY, EGG PRICES DROP

See January Issue for 1958 Farm Outlook

Christmas Comes but Once a Year



*Mother: "Aren't they cute!"
Father (to himself): "We'd better
just stay out of their way!"*



*"But, it's MY train,
Daddy!"*



IF you're toying with the idea of spending a quiet, relaxing Christmas with the children all around you, think again. It will be pieces you have, not peace!

An unwary householder, introduced for the first time to roller skates, soon learns there is nothing, absolutely nothing, quite so tricky underfoot. They make nice dents in smooth walls, too.

Small daughter thinks paints are meant to be shared, bless her little heart. What could look more artistic than a circle of deep maroon with a green dot right on the end of mommy's nose?

A toy tool kit brings out the inventiveness in kid carpenters. Why should pop be perturbed because they insist on using his legs to saw on? After all, they could just as well have sawed the chair leg in half while he wasn't watching.

Sister's cooking set brings squeals of delight and the instant decision to serve everyone dinner—RIGHT NOW. Father, poor fellow, feels his empty stomach gurgling and hopes dinner is well on its way.

Surrounded by toys, the kids stoke up at dinnertime for the afternoon's activities. Mother hopes junior will try to blow his horn. Maybe it'll get stopped up with mashed potato.

AFERRIS wheel for father to fix every five minutes brings out a multitude of tools. But then, he has an appreciative audience even if he does miss out on an afternoon nap.

Creaky wagon wheels, slowly bending in their axles, don't stop the kids from giving mama a ride whether she likes it or not. Somehow or other she manages to teeter precariously without upending, keeping an eye out for the first soft mat onto which to fall thankfully.

Worn out at long last, the kids drift off to Dreamland surrounded by every single one of their toys. Tomorrow will be trading day, with all the neighbor kids coming in to survey the loot.

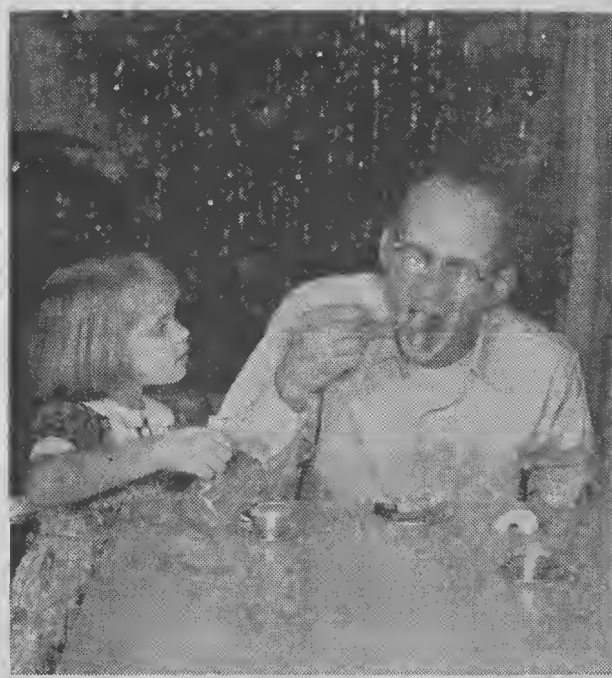
Mother and father, enjoying peace and quiet while they may, take solace in each other's quiet company. Maybe next year they could ship the kids off to Aunt Clara's for Christmas. *V*



"Does it tickle, Mommy?"



"Oof—not so hard, Kenny!"



"Yum, good!" (When's dinner ready?)

Picture story by ERIC WAHLEEN

A POINT OF VIEW

They had worked hard, and there was little to show for it, but the old man told the Mountie they didn't need anything

by G. CAMPBELL



"Guess I should have brought my other tool kit in."



"Well, all right. You can take a few of the toys to bed."



"Peace — at last! What could we do to have a nice quiet Christmas next year?"

IN these days of railway strikes, featherbedding, family allowances, old age pensions and hospital plans, I am reminded of an experience that befell a friend of mine. At the time we were both serving in the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and had been working the same patrol area.

Down in the short grass ranges of southern Alberta there are many lonely stretches. In this good cattle country, which is sparsely settled, you find ranch houses a day's ride apart, because an average ranch comprises 30,000 acres, and some are as large as 150,000 acres. It is also a long trip to the nearest town.

In one of the loneliest spots, an elderly couple were stretching out their days. They had raised a large family of daughters, and all had left the nest. The old couple had worked hard over the years, sticking it out through drought and dust storms, bad winters and blizzards. They had worked tirelessly for everything they had made—and it wasn't much. But they had raised good beef cattle, and the rancher's reputation as a stockman was second to none. Unfortunately, when they were in their prime and ran a large herd, beef sold for a few cents a pound. Through all the bitter years of struggle and adversity they had their children to clothe and feed and educate. When the depression came along in the thirties it only prolonged the period of big production for small return.

But that was the way it was. They were no better or worse off than anyone else who chose to ranch. They did their job well, which means to their own satisfaction, and were content. They were beholden to no man. Even by today's standards one wonders why anyone should stay with it—the long hours of heavy work, the amount of capitalization involved, and the net return for the tons of production. Perhaps it means that people, like the elderly couple in this story, realize if they want the kind of independence and freedom such a life gives, they must pay for it one way or another. In any event there is something about this attitude that is hard to put a finger on. You can call it satisfaction with a way of life, or you might explain it by saying that such people know they were living as close to normal as man was intended.

In spite of their years and diminishing vigor, this old couple stayed right there where they had first settled and the man tended his herd faithfully. He put up his feed with seasonal help, and nursed his cattle through the blizzards and storms and the trials of calving with a cunning developed over the years. He marshaled his strength and tailored it to the demands of time.

Each fall he would ship off a few carloads of top steers. We would consign his loads to Calgary or Winnipeg, Chicago or St. Paul; wherever he thought the market seemed best. With

the cattle shipped, he and his wife would settle down to face another rugged winter. If they took any holidays, other than a trip to the nearest town, I never heard of it. But I do know that this type of person would do their own doctoring and dentistry within reason. They were nearly self-sufficient. If they wanted something they could not order from the mail catalogue, they made it.

THE short grass country is flat, but surprisingly broken by massive coulees or badlands. But up on top, with the flat prairie stretching away to the horizon, only in the far distance south can one find a green break in a world of monochrome. And there one finds almost a mirage in the sweet grass hills of Montana. In such an environment it is natural that you should find the people direct and simple, honest and straightforward, with not too much sense of humor, but a wonderful sense of hospitality.

My friend the mountie was stationed in a settlement of about 50 souls. Tracks, coming in from all angles on the prairie, converged on a general store, Chinese restaurant, garage, hotel and railway station. A freight train came through once a week and it tied up overnight.

In the mail one week the constable found a fancy envelope with United States postage on it. This was most unusual and unexpected. He opened it, and recognized at once the name of a well-known firm of commission agents in St. Paul. The letter stated that a year before they had received on consignment, several carloads of fine steers, branded so and so. They had handled these cattle, found a ready buyer and had mailed a large cheque in six figures to the consignor with the following name and address. The cheque had never been cashed. As they wanted to close their books for that year, they wondered if it would be possible for the R.C.M.P. to make inquiries regarding the fate of the cheque.

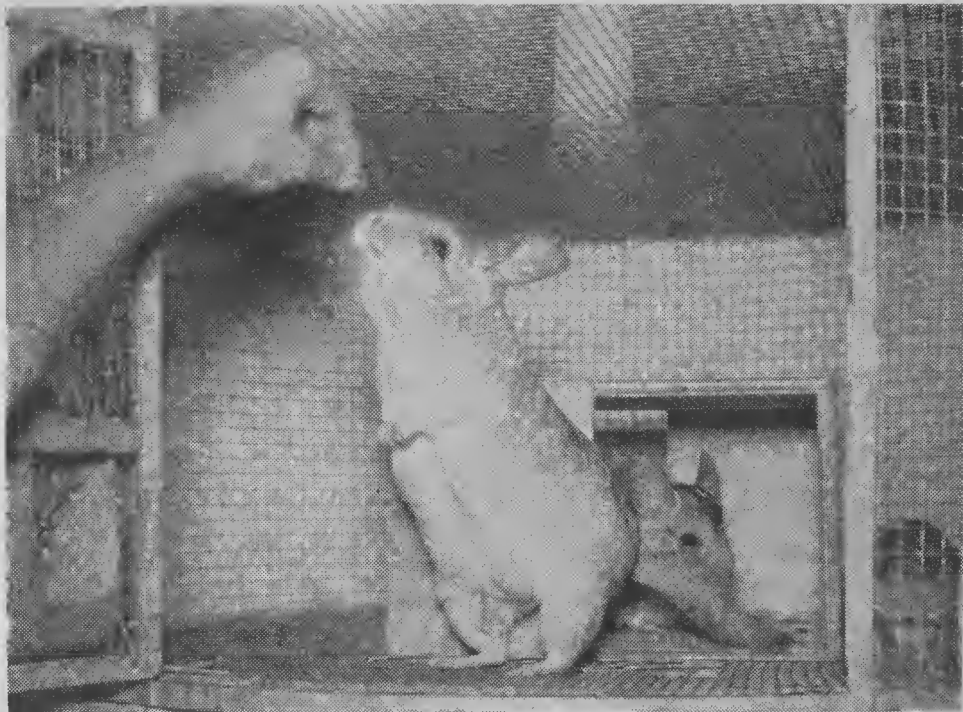
My friend checked the brand in the detachment office. Then he made some inquiries locally to make sure he understood which old wagon track to follow. Briefing included obtaining information about markers, because in that area, cross trails and turns are indicated by an abandoned stove, an old plow, a broken cart or even a rock. It was a trip of 40 miles, and well within the detachment area, but a trip to be combined with some other investigation in order to practice the economy so rigidly enforced.

After dropping down from the plains into the alkali flats, and winding his way across a gumbo stretch and through a poplar grove to the river, he found a set of corrals and some tired and sad looking buildings. And finally he spotted the unpainted house, which was sinking into the earth as though it had been standing

(Please turn to page 33)



Mrs. Henke with Mama Chinchilla and one of the eight-day babies.



These round cages are very easy to keep clean.

Neighbors with a Purpose

Life has an international flavor for the Henkes. They are German immigrants who keep South American animals at their Canadian home

by
**LORAIN
PORTER**

BACK in April 1955 Mr. and Mrs. Frank Henke came to Canada from Hamburg, Germany, to establish a chinchilla ranch. Young and enthusiastic, but discriminating too, Frank and his pretty wife, Eve, waited until early this year to buy their house and two acres approximately 25 miles north of mid-town Toronto.

When moving time arrived there were seven chinchillas to bring along with the furniture to their new ranch, "High Oaks." The Henkes had purchased a pair of chinchillas when they first arrived in Canada, and the furry family was increasing. Down in the dry cellar of their new home my fluffy neighbors set up housekeeping in spick and span wire cages.

"Chinchillas are very clean and have no body odor, so it is quite practical to raise them indoors," Frank Henke told me, placing a baby chinchilla in my arms. She had arrived a few days ago without any human assistance.

My neighbors explained that baby chinchillas are born with their eyes open and with teeth and fur.

"This youngster was running about a few hours after birth, and was nibbling at food the next morning," Eve Henke said.

I looked down at the wee animal and remarked that it must take a great many skins to make a coat, thinking I'd prefer a chinchilla pet.

"That's why the fur is so expensive," Mr. Henke smiled.

IT is said that Queen Isabella of Spain owned the first chinchilla coat. The story is that a captain and his Spanish troops came to South America, the home of the wild chinchilla, to get tribute in gold and silver for their queen from the Indians. In an area of the Andes Mountains, which runs along the western coast of South America, the captain saw an ancient chief wearing a beautiful fur that was unfamiliar to him. He traded gold and silver for the Indian chief's chinchilla robe, and then the captain returned to Spain with much less tribute in gold and silver for his queen. Thinking he would be jailed, perhaps killed for trading precious metal for the misty blue-gray fur, he helped himself to

the gold and silver he had left. Then he vamoosed. But not before sending a messenger with the chinchilla coat to his beloved queen. Isabella was so delighted with the soft loveliness of the chinchilla coat that she forgave the captain.

No one knows, of course, just when chinchilla fur was first used but, according to J. P. Prestwich, past president of Allied Fur Industries, the Incas used it about one thousand years ago. Even in their time the fur was such a luxury that only the chieftains wore the robes made from the skins. The Indians made thread from the fur which they used to weave blankets.

It was, however, the Spaniards who named this attractive little animal. They called it chinchilla, which means "Little Chinch," after the Chinch Indians who made pets of the chinchillas. It was in about 1524 when the Spaniards first encountered these Indians and their pets.

The years passed and fur trading increased. The demand for chinchilla fur almost caused the extinction of the little animal. Today, wild chinchillas in South America are so scarce that it may take an Indian trapper many weeks to capture a pair. It is now unlawful to kill them, and government stations have been erected for the purpose of raising chinchillas. Where formerly these little fellows thrived in the semi-arid regions of the Andes in Peru, Bolivia and Argentina, the dwindling population is now in the northeast corner of Chile. Apparently wild chinchillas in Chile find no fault with the rainless desert country so many thousands of feet above sea level. It is likely that they get water from the dew that condenses at night in the crevices of porous rock.

I ASKED Mr. Henke how chinchillas happened to come to North America, and he told me of the courageous efforts of M. F. Chapman to promote the chinchilla industry on this continent. Mr. Chapman, who was fond of animals, was a mining engineer who was working for the Anaconda Copper Company in Chile. He had a number of mines to look after in the Andes that were located in an altitude of about 10,000 feet. Due to lack of roads,

Mr. Chapman rode to his mines on horseback. During one of his rides a blacksmith showed him a couple of chinchilla skins and he was greatly impressed by their texture. When he found out that the trapper was an old Indian, he arranged to get some live chinchillas. However, it was only after much difficulty that he was able to get a permit to bring them from South America.

Like Mr. Chapman, the Henkes are fond of animals. This affection dates back to when they were children in Germany. It was, however, the attractive little chinchillas who stole their hearts. That is why they have established High Oaks Ranch north of Richmond Hill, where our elevation is approximately 1,025 feet.

The cuddly chinchillas next door remind me of bunnies with their light soft fur. But chinchilla fur stands straight up.

"One of the reasons their fur is so valuable is the fact that from a single root come as many as 60 hairs," Frank Henke told me. "And the fur can never be truly imitated because of the changes in degrees of color from the top to the roots." He showed me the underfur part of the hair which is an attractive slate blue. "One of the important things we look for in these animals is a good under-color," he added.

It seems that there are three color classifications of chinchilla fur generally recognized now—dark, medium, and pale.

"Softness and lightness are the distinctive qualities of chinchilla fur," Mrs. Henke said. She also told me that it is a most durable fur. Her blond husband blew into the fur of a young chinchilla to demonstrate the density of the fur, which is most important.

"You see!" he exclaimed. "We cannot observe the skin, therefore the density is good."

TO keep their chinchillas well-groomed, the Henkes use fine, almost white sand for their baths. "And how they love their sandbaths," Mrs. Henke chuckled. "You should see them roll in the fine sand, and then they (Please turn to page 34)

“And it came to pass...”

by RUTH LERDAL CUMMINGS

UNDER bleak, gray clouds the South Dakota farmyard lay, natural and tranquil in the clear winter air. A thin line of smoke curled from the house chimney, while across the way, the windmill droned high above the half-frozen water of the cattle tank. In the back of the yard, chickens cackled and crowed in the hen house, and the corn cribs stood almost empty of corn. It was the year 1932 when both drought and depression lay like two great dead hands over the land.

Eric Olson closed the barn door and stood for a long moment facing the empty cribs. Tired of body and weary in spirit, he stood, a blue denim figure silhouetted against the deep red of the barn. Slowly he turned his gaze far out to the fields. After June the corn had browned, later the hot south winds had taken their toll. In autumn the dry stalks had crackled under horses' hoofs and wagon wheels. Some ears were undeveloped, while others were only nubbins which barely sounded as they hit the bang boards. After long hours of picking, the golden ears had scarcely shown above the green of the wagon box. He had held the reins in his hands as the horses plodded homeward and he had wondered, was it only the crops and prices or was it him? How long could a man lose money and still keep farming? Were the answers concealed somewhere under those stalks, now bowed by winds

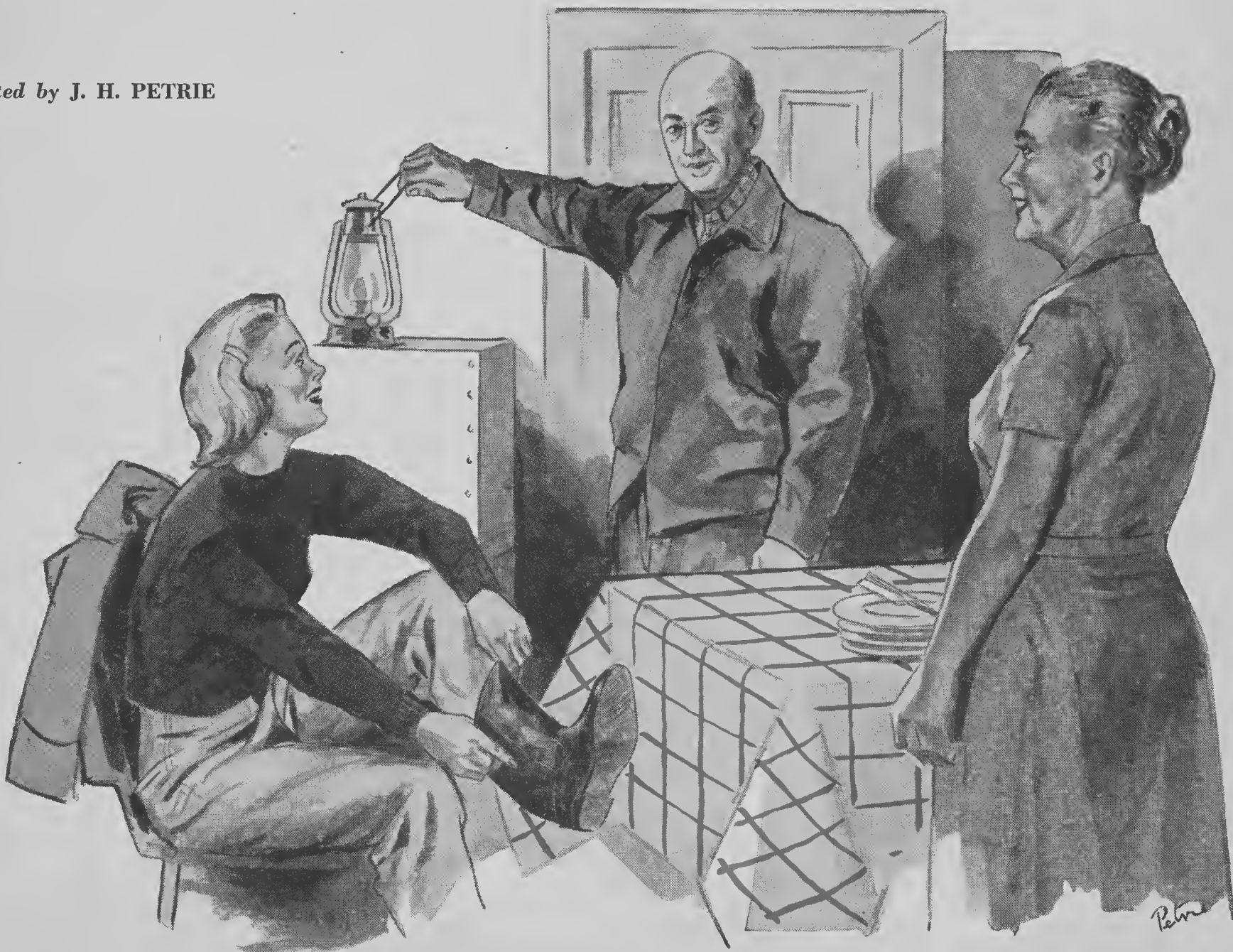
and darkened by frost, desolate and forgotten against the gray of the morning sky?

Eric looked up from the fields, toward the long wooden gate that separated them from the yard. His eyes fell on the oat bundles tied to the posts. Sparrows were picking their Christmas dinner from the tiny hulls. From the harvest fields last summer a few shocks of grain had been carefully stored in the barn. For the Yuletide season, in the tradition of his forefathers, Eric had given the bundles to the birds. To Eric, Norway was 6,000 miles distant and 40 years ago, but still, a bit of it stood only a few feet away. Another sparrow fluttered amid the grain. He could give Christmas to the birds but not to his own family. At nine cents a bushel, oats were a gift any farmer could afford. Eric clicked his tongue against the roof of his mouth and turned toward home.

HE scraped his shoes before entering the house. Inside the vestibule he took out his dollar watch. Why, it was almost nine o'clock! He could see the womenfolk through the window as they went about their morning work. He opened the door and the smell of home-baked bread greeted him. Without wondering or knowing just why, he stood for a moment. The nickel-plated front of the huge range shone, and the tea kettle and coffee pot

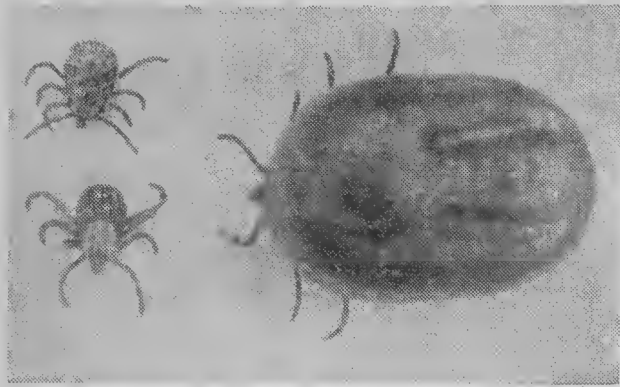
sat on the hot iron. The large wooden box in the corner by the stove was filled with cobs. The table sat next to the wall with a cloth spread over it, and odd chairs pulled around it. Above the table hung the calendar, and above that, the clock sat on its shelf. He could hear its ticking along with the steaming of the tea kettle. The dishes lined up on the pantry shelves, the cupboard which stretched from ceiling to floor, the drain and the cistern pump, nothing here had changed for years. Yet, it was not the presence of old familiar things which Eric wondered about, but the absence of something, something not made of wood, iron or cloth. Eric took off his cap and scratched his bald head. Funny, he thought to himself as he threw his sweater and jacket behind the stove, funny the women aren't talking about Christmas or planning for it! Have they forgotten that tonight is Christmas Eve? He looked over at his wife, Anna. Queer, how a man lived with a woman years on end, and only once in a great while did he ever really look at her. Even her faded calico and old shoes did not betray her years, Eric thought. Only her hands did that. They showed the marks of scrubbing floors, scalding laundry water and hanging out clothes in freezing weather. Their entire married life had been spent on this farm and now, after all these years, he had so little to
(Please turn to page 35)

Illustrated by J. H. PETRIE



Christmas Eve, 1932. There were no presents to give, but this family didn't appear to mind. Ellen prepared to help her father do the chores.

The Insect



● At extreme left, the male and female Rocky Mountain wood tick. On their right, an engorged female, after she has feasted on the blood of a victim.

● Researcher J. Gregson, who along with co-workers, has recently discovered several hitherto unknown facts about the tick and the paralysis it causes.

The Disease



The Scientist

● In this corral in B.C.'s Nicola Valley, 120 animals went down with tick paralysis overnight. Many recovered after the ticks were removed. Still, there were 35 dead.

Scientists are learning the secret of

TICK PARALYSIS

and are on the verge of mastering it

IN the B.C. interior and on the shortgrass prairies lives an eight-legged, pancake-shaped monster called the Rocky Mountain wood tick which spells trouble for humans and animals alike, far out of proportion to the creature's minute (one-eighth inch) size. Lying in wait for its victims atop blades of grass, it climbs aboard, and greedily sucks their life blood until it swells to about 100 times its normal girth.

East of the Rockies, and south of the U.S. border, this vampire-like menace spreads a sometimes fatal disease called Spotted Fever, but in the B.C. hinterland, it causes a muscular paralysis which can be fatal too, and causes B.C. stockmen heavy losses in time and money.

Last April, the 300-head herd of the Lauder Ranch at Merritt reported paralysis in 10 steers, 3 of which died as a result. Drew's Ranch at Stump Lake had 32 out of 118 yearlings paralyzed, and 7 of them died. Nicola Stock Farms found 200 paralyzed in a herd of 700, and when they drove the animals in to be treated, 120 of them went down in the corral overnight. Their losses in dead animals amounted to 35, at a cost of about \$3,000. Other ranchers in this Kamloops-Nicola area suffered losses in both cattle and sheep.

This year's outbreak wasn't confined to animals either. Three people were partially paralyzed through tick action, although all recovered when the offending creatures were removed. But the Livestock Insect Laboratory of the Canada Department of Agriculture at Kamloops has 300 cases of human tick paralysis on file, 28 of which proved fatal to the unwilling host. Because the first symptoms of this paralysis begin in the legs and cause the victim to walk with a straggling gait, people have been run into the pokey on a drunk charge, and later found to be providing free board and lodging to the lowly tick.

At the Kamloops lab, tick research work is under the able direction of Jack Gregson, officer-in-charge

of the veterinary and medical section. Although the work has been going on there since the laboratory was first started in 1928, researchers haven't been able to see daylight in their project until just recently. Many years had to be spent learning the habits and makeup of the tick itself. One of the biggest drawbacks to the study has been the lack of a suitable laboratory animal to work with. Ticks can easily paralyze cattle, sheep, dogs and people, but smaller animals, such as guinea pigs and rabbits, have proved immune to them.

DISCOVERY of a small, cheap animal, which proved to be susceptible to tick paralysis, came partly by accident when workers at the lab were studying the tick's life cycle.

The Rocky Mountain wood tick is a member of the spider family. In fact, like the spider, it isn't even a true insect, because it has eight legs instead of six. Adult ticks are found in the grass of the range areas of B.C., southern Alberta, and Saskatchewan from about March until June, depending on the climate of each particular locale. When a prospective host passes by, the tick hooks on, and then climbs rapidly to the region of the head and shoulders.

This climbing habit gave rise to the false idea that the creatures drop from trees or high bushes—one of several "legends" floating around about this tiny pest. However, one surprising thing, which is true, is the fact that the tick will go for years without food, just living in hopes that some choice host will happen along. At the Kamloops lab, one has survived for seven years in a jar without food or a change of air.

As it happens, it is the female tick which causes all the trouble. After inserting their long feeders

into the victim's skin, they remain there steadily, feeding for about seven days. They become so engorged they attain a length of half an inch, and the bulk of a large grape. Toward the end of this feast is when the host begins to become paralyzed. The intensity of the crippling can vary from tick to tick. However, the host recovers quickly as soon as the unwanted guest is removed. The fact that the tick can be picked off quite easily explodes the often-quoted "legend" that the creature burrows into its victim and has to be cut out. The deception occurs as the tick may often appear to be buried, because of swelling around the puncture resulting from the secretion the tick pumps in to deaden the sting.

Once engorged, the happy lady drops off and lays several thousand eggs in the grass. These develop into tiny larvae, or seed ticks, which feed only on (but don't paralyze) small rodents like mice, ground squirrels, and chipmunks. It was while studying these alternate hosts that Gregson and his assistants found one which could become paralyzed through the adult tick. The small animal they were searching for proved to be the common ground hog.

NEXT step in the project was to infect laboratory ground hogs, and try to learn the nature of the paralysis itself. It was found that the paralysis attacks the motor system of the body, but not the sensory system, and that paralysis occurs in the junction between muscle and nerve. Starting first in the leg muscles, it works up through the other muscles until complete paralysis results. If the ticks aren't removed by the time paralysis reaches the respiratory system, the victim usually dies.

Although often mistaken for polio, tick paralysis causes none of the destruction of muscular tissue common in the former. At first, it was thought the crippling was the result of a germ or virus carried by the tick. This was discarded, however, when ground hogs inoculated with blood serum from paralyzed contemporaries (Please turn to page 34)

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Livestock Auctions Growing in Maritimes

FARMERS in the Maritimes have insisted for years that they have been handicapped for the lack of a central market, where prices could be established competitively for their livestock. This past summer they took a major step to at least partly remedy the situation.

The Maritime Co-operative Services and the New Brunswick Department of Agriculture sent men to Ontario and areas in the U.S. where community auction sales were in operation. Their task was to find out whether such sales could be adapted to conditions in New Brunswick. The travellers liked what they saw. They turned over their findings and ideas to the Sussex and Studholm Agricultural Society when they got home. The Society is a 117-year-old farmers' co-operative in a predominately dairy district. It made a start, and the first community auction caught on with a bang.

Other sales soon sprang up at Moncton, Fredericton and Centreville. If the community auction idea is picked up by farm groups in the other Maritime provinces, farm leaders are hopeful it will be a major factor in bringing prices for stock in these parts into line with those in other areas of Canada, because comparatively low prices for beef are believed to be a major reason why the region is deficient in livestock production.

To start its sale, the Sussex co-op rented a barn 4 miles out of town, scheduled sales to begin in April of 1957, and to be held every second week. However, farmers converged on each sale with over 100 head of cattle, as well as other stock. The response soon forced the Society to reassess its position. To meet the situation, it built a 100' by 36' pole-type building adjacent to its own office next the



Jake Paterson and John Shea, Sussex, load lambs into a car for the sale.

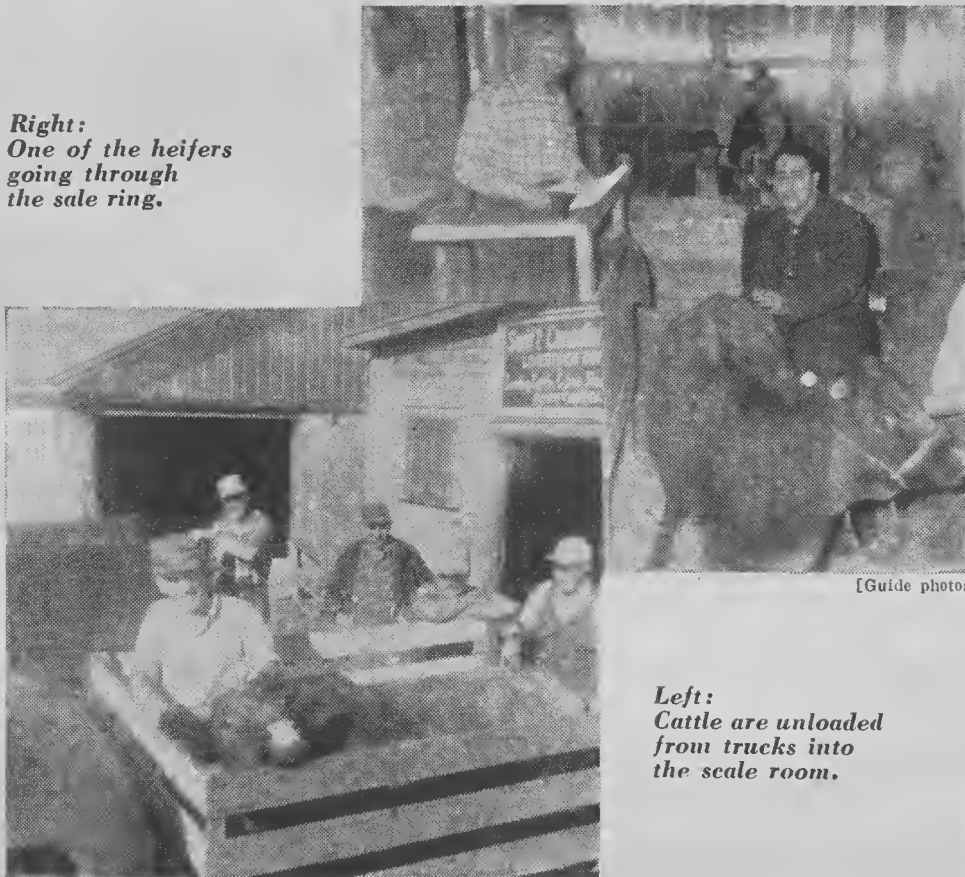
town's rail siding, and added a 30' by 36' sales pavilion alongside. When these were constructed, it began to run the sales weekly.

"Farmers like to see their animals weighed and to compare them with the stock offered by their neighbors," observed manager Lloyd Murray. "They are convinced now that the sale is bringing them higher prices than they would otherwise obtain."


Most of the animals going under the auctioneer's hammer are for slaughter, with veal calves, cows, and other stock in abundance. The stock is not the kind that can be turned into brandable beef, because Maritime cattle are of mostly dairy breeding as yet. But they are the kind that are slaughtered and sold over many meat counters in the region. The auction sales are attracting butchers, small packers, speculators and large packers, and bringing them into direct competition with one another.

Commission charged at Sussex is 4 per cent of the gross sale price, and with this revenue, the sale directors pay all expenses. Farmers are allowed one reserve bid as their animals go through the ring.—D.R.B. ✓


*Right:
One of the heifers going through the sale ring.*




*Left:
Cattle are unloaded from trucks into the scale room.*



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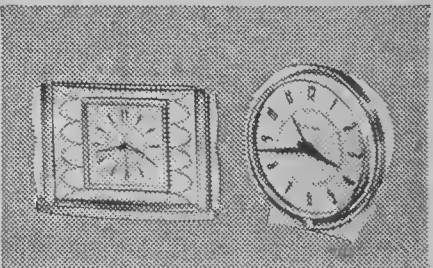


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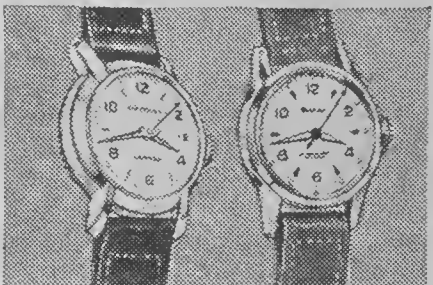
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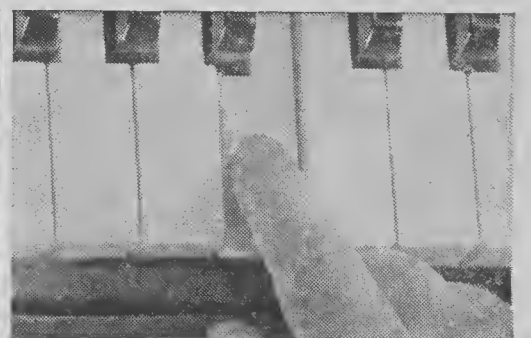
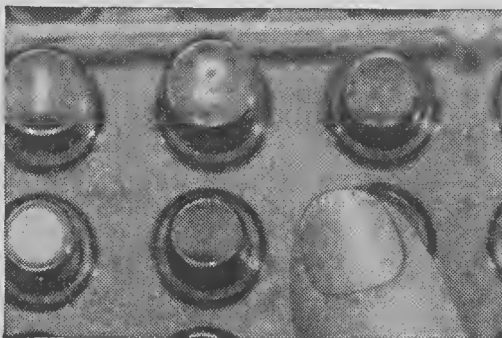
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What Farm Organizations Are Doing

TARIFF INCREASE ON WOOL CLOTH OPPOSED

The Canadian Federation of Agriculture, in representations before the Tariff Board hearings held recently in Ottawa, urged that no action be taken to increase the rates of duty on imports of wool cloth into Canada. The hearings conducted by the Tariff Board are part of a general investigation of the textile industry, which has been ordered by the Government. The Board was requested to not only investigate, but to make specific recommendations, as to what tariffs should be imposed.

Two main arguments were advanced by the CFA in support of its stand.

To begin with, the Federation maintained that there was no evidence to indicate that the Canadian wool cloth industry was being threatened with a permanent contraction of its markets as a result of overseas competition, providing due allowance was made for (1) the normal cyclical fluctuations which affect the industry, and (2) the abnormally high premium which has been placed on the Canadian dollar in recent times.

In the second place the Federation claimed that the already difficult position of the farm industry might well be aggravated further, if an increase in duties on imports of wool cloth were put into effect.

The Federation recognized that the increasing amount of Italian woollens which have been coming into Canada represented the major factor which had given rise to the requests of the textile industry for increased protection. However, it pointed out that Canadian exports of farm products to Italy had averaged \$13½ million a year for the past 5 years, and made up 43 per cent of the total Canadian exports to that country. Any increase by Canada of tariffs against the Italian textile industry would undoubtedly be looked upon by Italy as a serious trade aggression. The results of such an action on the part of Canada, could

easily lead to loss of markets for Canadian wheat, flour, flaxseed and rapeseed far in excess of the value of Italy's total textile exports to this country.

The Federation brief also emphasized that, because of the vital importance of the British market for Canadian grain and various other farm commodities, it viewed with much concern any fundamental change in Canada's trading policy, such as more protection for our textile industry, which would make it still more difficult for Britain to earn Canadian dollars. V

URGES SUPPORTS TO PROTECT PRODUCERS

The Interprovincial Farm Union Council, in a letter to Prime Minister Diefenbaker and Agricultural Minister Harkness, expressed concern over the press analysis of the Government's announced plan to strengthen price support legislation, and re-emphasized its views on this subject.

The I.F.U.C. reiterated its stand that, in order to maintain farm income at fair levels, producers must be protected in the market place by:

- (1) Setting floor prices at parity levels and applying support prices directly to the producer.
- (2) Taking effective steps to make the floor prices operative.

The Council believes that this can be achieved through a system of forward pricing and deficiency payments, with the payments to apply to a determined level of each farmer's production.

"Under deficiency payments," the I.F.U.C. declared, "farmers would receive a fair return, the consumer would pay a fair price, and the Prices Support Board would be involved only to a limited extent." V

RECOMMENDS POLICY CHANGE

Ontario Federation of Agriculture president, Lloyd Jasper, in addressing his organization's recent annual meeting, stated that orderly marketing, to be effective, must be buttressed with orderly production and orderly tariff protection. He recommended that consideration be given to amending OFA policy to include this concept.

"You may have orderly marketing with good prices," Mr. Jasper said, "but where will that lead you—it will lead you straight to overproduction. You may have orderly marketing and orderly production—but what good is that if our stabilized and high priced markets are flooded with imports (which are) subsidized by foreign governments. These three areas are highly interrelated and to control one you must control all three, or to control two, you must control all three."

Mr. Jasper warned the meeting that farm policies must be such that they do not create overproduction. Such policies only lead to a dead end. He



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cited the United States as an example of what he meant. V

PREPARING FOR EDUCATION CONFERENCE

Alberta Farm Organizations are assisting other interested bodies in preparing for the Canadian Conference on Education, which is to be held in Ottawa next February.

Interested Alberta organizations have set up an Alberta Advisory Committee for the purpose of studying and assembling pertinent information prior to the conference. To facilitate this work eight smaller research committees have been organized. Each

research committee will work with one of the eight commissions on which the Canadian conference is being organized.

Mrs. C. T. Armstrong of Calgary has been named as one of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture delegates to the Ottawa conference. She is well qualified to act in this capacity, being president of the Farm Women's Union of Alberta, director of the Alberta Federation of Agriculture, and director representing the farm women of Western Canada on the board of the CFA. Mrs. Armstrong is a member of the Conference commission on "Education for Leisure." Mr. J. R.

McFall, AFA secretary, is working on the conference commission which will deal with the financing of education. V

LIVESTOCK GRADING INVESTIGATION REQUESTED

The Manitoba Farmers' Union has called on the Canada Department of Agriculture to conduct a thorough investigation of its livestock grading operations. The MFU pointed out that a case had been brought to its attention wherein a carcass of beef had been obviously graded in a manner which discriminated against the grower. The carcass in question was in most respects a red grade, but, owing to a weakness in one cut, it had been officially graded commercial. The result was a loss to the producer of possibly \$25 to \$35 on one animal.

The MFU believed that this type of grading could well be the reason for the disappointment experienced by many farmers in marketing their livestock. It suggested that an investigation would bring to light any weaknesses in standards of grading and administration, and at the same time would provide an opportunity to explore the possible need of revision of the existing regulations. V

PRESSES FOR EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY

The Manitoba Federation of Agriculture and Co-operation, in a well

documented presentation to the Manitoba Royal Commission on Education, charged that a very large number of rural children in the province are being denied the benefits of an equal educational opportunity, and are receiving a second class education. To meet the problem the MFAC urged the Commission to recommend that the Department of Education take the initiative and show some aggressiveness in promoting larger school areas. The Federation also pointed out that a greater contribution to underwriting education by the Manitoba Government would help to equalize the financial burdens of school support throughout the province. Manitoba is one of the lowest contributors of any province in Canada to the per capita cost of education.

The brief dealt at some length with curriculum and community needs. It stressed that youth, in order to prepare for life in a democratic society, must be made aware of the elements and the institutions that have come into being and are successfully functioning in the community. It suggested that teaching about co-operatives in our schools be introduced through classes in social studies, economics and vocational agriculture at the junior high school level, and that it be continued in senior high schools. V



Rural Route Letter

Hi Folks:

It looked like I was in for some real peace and quiet the other night, yes sir. Sara was away at a W.I. meeting, the kids were at some 4-H do about two miles down the road, and there I was, sitting back nice and easy by the T.V. watching a real sharp mystery program. It was too good to last, and it didn't. There was a knock at the door and in walked Ted Corbett, all set to plunk himself down for the whole evening. Knowing the T.V. would come off second best if it tried to compete with Ted, I turned the thing off and settled down to chew the fat with my neighbor.

After a while the talk got around to bloated cows, and why certain feeds caused them to bloat, and others didn't.

"I figure when you feed lots of good dry hay, the rough edges of it keep the walls of the cow's stomach irritated, causing the critter to burp at steady intervals," said Ted, "and that keeps it from accumulating gas. Ordinary grass works about the same way. Now," he went on, "when the cow takes in a lot of soft stuff, such as fresh alfalfa or clover, there's no irritating motion at all, and the stomach gets puffed up with gas."

Now I'll admit that sounded logical enough to me, but I was never one to agree with Ted Corbett about anything right off the bat. What's more, I'd been reading of another angle to this subject that sounded every bit as logical. "No sir," I told him, "I figure bloat is caused by a rise in the fluid level around the animal's cud, causing gas to be trapped in the upper part of the stomach."

"That's about the silliest thing I've heard yet," Ted snorted. "Look here now, you put anything in a jug of water and the water will rise—that should hold just as true in a

cow's stomach as anywhere else. And if that's the case, how come some feeds cause bloat and others don't, if this fluid level business had anything to do with it?"

"That's easy enough explained," I said. "For one thing, all feeds don't raise the water level the same amount. For instance, your grain, alfalfas, and clovers sink to the bottom real quick, causing the fluid to rise away up. On the other hand now, hay and grasses will float for the most part, and raise the fluid level very little, don't you get it?"

Ted can be a stubborn so-and-so when he wants to be.

"It still sounds screwy to me," he said.

Well sir, we argued back and forth for a while until our gambling instincts got the upper hand. I put up a dollar to back my side of it, and Ted covered the bet as quick as a wink. With a sum of money like that involved I decided some real action was needed, so I got our local Vet on the phone and put the matter up to him.

He was kind of amused about the whole thing. "As a matter of fact, there are quite a few theories around on what goes on inside a cow's stomach when it has bloat," he laughed, "and I'm not going to go into any of them over the phone. Seems to me it's more important to do what you can to prevent bloating than to worry about what goes on after a cow has it. As long as your pasture has at least 50 per cent grass in it you shouldn't have much to worry about. If you've got more legumes than grass, better wait until the plants are in the blossom stage before you turn the cows out to graze."

Well, Ted still has his dollar and I have mine, but we figure we both got several dollars' worth of good advice.

Yours,
PETE WILLIAMS.

Sketch Pad Out-of-Doors

No. 70 in series—by CLARENCE TILLENIUS

NO one can tell exactly what may make a successful picture. Sometimes it may be an elaborate composition worked out after weeks and months of selection and rejection. Again, a sudden glimpse of something and the hurried jotting down of a few lines may be the inspiration for a fine work of art. You can never tell, but it is a fairly safe rule that if something appeals to you as a composition, you should make a sketch.

It is not particularly important that it be exact or accurate. What is important is that the sketch you make on the spot will ever afterward bring back the scene and usually even the feeling you had when you made it. For this reason I have never liked to take up an old sketch and do more work on it. Better always to make a new drawing from the old sketch and work that up. In the sketch made directly on the spot while inspiration

is strong, there is quite often something that you may strive in vain to recapture later—and it is this that you risk losing by "working up" the original.

In winter it is often too cold to work in color outdoors. While using the pencil you might jot down a few of the main color masses and the relation they have to each other—snow lighter than sky, snow shadows darker than sky (if they are), the color of the shadows, and so on. Remember, for instance, that in a snow landscape with a clear blue sky overhead, the color of the upper surfaces of everything in the scene will be modified to some extent by the blue reflection from the sky.

(Sketch Pad Out-of-Doors complete series now available in book form from The Country Guide, Winnipeg. Price postpaid \$1.00.) V



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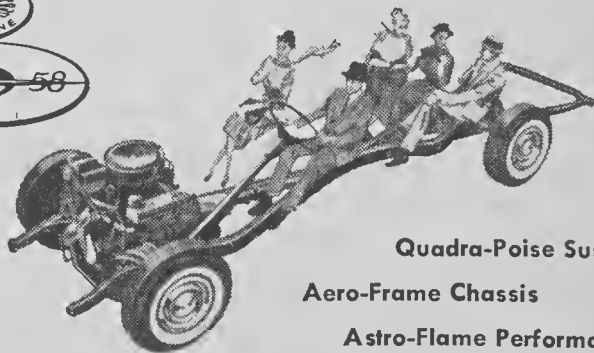
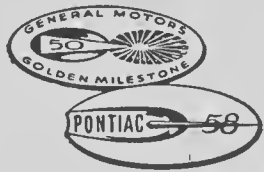
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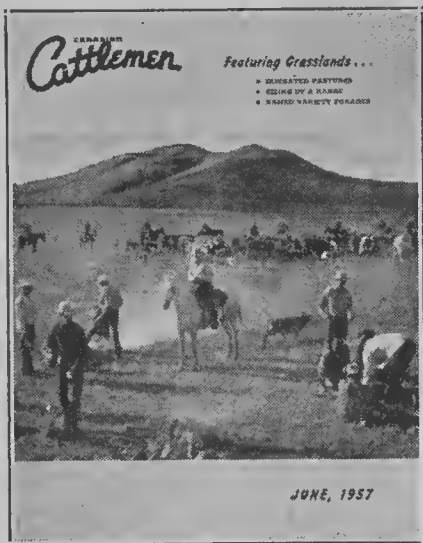
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LIVESTOCK

How to Spot Selenium Poisoning

YOU don't have to live on the prairies for your animals to come down with a dose of selenium poisoning—often called "alkali disease" or "blind staggers." Seleniferous pasture has been reported as far east as Cape Breton Island, and can turn up almost any place through feed grain or forage that has been shipped from affected areas. Although chances are slight that you'll ever be faced with it, it's a good thing to know the symptoms.

These are loss of hair from the manes and tails of horses, from the switches of cattle, and the bodies of pigs. Also, there's a decided change in growth of the horn of the hoof in an affected animal. In horses, loss of hair from the mane and tail is the first symptom to appear, generally followed by a cracking of the hoof at

the coronary band. This results from an interruption of hoof growth, which produces a band of dead tissue around it. As new growth pushes this dead tissue downward, the hoof may separate and slough off. Similar interruptions in hoof growth occur in cattle and swine, and, in the former, horn growth may also be affected.

Animals suffering from selenium poisoning may be listless, and show a general lack of condition. Lesions may develop in various internal organs, such as the heart, liver, spleen, and kidneys, and can be fatal. In the case of affected poultry, eggs fail to hatch.

Chronic selenium poisoning develops when animals eat grass, grain, or hay containing 5 to 40 p.p.m. of selenium for several weeks. Soils which support seleniferous plants are generally found in arid or semi-arid



[Guide photo] Hind legs of this calf show abnormal growth and sloughing off of hooves.

areas that have an average annual rainfall of less than 20 inches. Because these soils occur only in certain geological formations, areas producing seleniferous vegetation are scattered and very limited in size. Plants containing over 50 p.p.m. of the mineral have been found in Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba, and in less concentrated form at widely scattered points in other provinces.—C.V.F. ✓

Hormones And Wool Production

CAN sex hormones, like stilbestrol, increase wool production? Dr. S. B. Slen has been testing three of these hormones on sheep at the Lethbridge Experimental Farm, Alta. The three were the female hormone called estradiol, the male hormone testosterone, and the synthetic female hormone diethylstilbestrol (stilbestrol).

The changes were evident. Both ewes and wethers made significant body gains on the female hormones, as would be expected from experience with beef cattle, but the male hormone had no effect on body weight gain.

However, when body weight was increased by female hormones, wool production decreased. The male hormone made no significant difference in wool growth, but it did stimulate thyroid activity, which normally causes an increase in wool growth, says Dr. Slen. ✓



Stiff and swollen muscles make it difficult for another poisoned calf to get up on its feet.



Once upright, the calf is able to stand only if it can spread its hind legs in an awkward stance.

Beware if Calves Should Start to Cough

A NEW cattle disease, which is taking a toll of calves in many herds across the country, has been identified in Canada. It is lungworm, or parasitic bronchitis. Dr. D. J. Campbell of the Ontario Veterinary College says there is evidence now that the disease has reached serious proportions. It has been diagnosed in herds right across Ontario, as well as in Alberta, and it may turn up in other provinces. He says that while it has been identified only recently, it is

known that it has been established in Canada for several years.

The first signs of the disease that farmers will notice will be coughing among the calves. Breathing will become heavy and labored as the flanks heave in and out. The calf will lose flesh, its hair will dry, and it will begin to look as if it is starving to death. Not more than 10 per cent of infected calves are likely to die, but the survivors take about a year to recuperate, with heavy loss to the owner.

The time to look for lungworms is in the late summer and fall, through to November. The worms are living in the air passages then, and are coughed up and swallowed into the digestive tract. The eggs are laid there and are voided. The worms themselves may be up to three inches long, but the larvae are microscopic. It is through an examination of the feces through a microscope that this condition can be diagnosed accurately.

It has been found that the worms, when voided by the calf, stay alive on lush, moist and well-shaded pasture—the kind with plenty of clovers and alfalfa on which calves thrive. Then if calves graze again in the field they take in the worms, which begin im-

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mediately to burrow through body tissue into the lungs, and through to the air tubes. They damage lung tissue seriously during the migration, and it is permanent damage, leaving the animal more susceptible to other infections, and perhaps to pneumonia.

Once the disease has been diagnosed, and that must be done by a specialist because of the microscopic larvae, then the stockman must break the life cycle of the grub by keeping his calves off infected pastures, says Dr. Campbell. The calves must be brought into inside pens or dry lots where no plants can grow.

"Don't let the calves out to graze for a single day," he warns. "It is not known how long the larvae can survive in grass, but they might even survive over winter."

Adult animals might suffer from the disease too, for it seems that those infected in calfhood may develop a sensitivity which will give them a severe reaction if they are exposed to the disease as adults.

Dr. Campbell holds out one other prospect for control. He is now working on a vaccine and is optimistic that it might be available in another year. —D.R.B. ✓

Getting into The Polled Cattle Trend



[Guide photo]

The three-year-old polled herd bull is paying dividends for Jim McMullen.

JIM McMULLEN doesn't believe in cattle with horns. He had always dehorned his calves with caustic at 2 to 10 days old, but turned recently to breeding polled Herefords. He now has 10 polled out of 30 Herefords in his registered purebred herd. Last year his bull was breeding only about 50 per cent polled calves, but the three-year-old he has now, bought from Walter Olsen of Arcola, Sask., is breeding about 90 per cent polled.

"It's a funny thing about polled cattle," he says, "but the grandam of my new bull was a horned cow, and yet he is producing a high proportion of polled cows. Whereas the bull I

used before came from a long line of polled Herefords in North Dakota, and the percentage was not nearly so good. The important thing to look for is that the bull has a good, clean head if you want clean-headed calves. There's no trace of horn on the bull I'm using now."

McMullen has a herd of about 95, including grade cattle, and found it quite a chore to dehorn the crop of about 35 calves a year. That's one

reason why he turned to polled breeding, and another is that he believes that this is the coming thing in the cattle business, and the sooner he started to breed polled cattle the better.

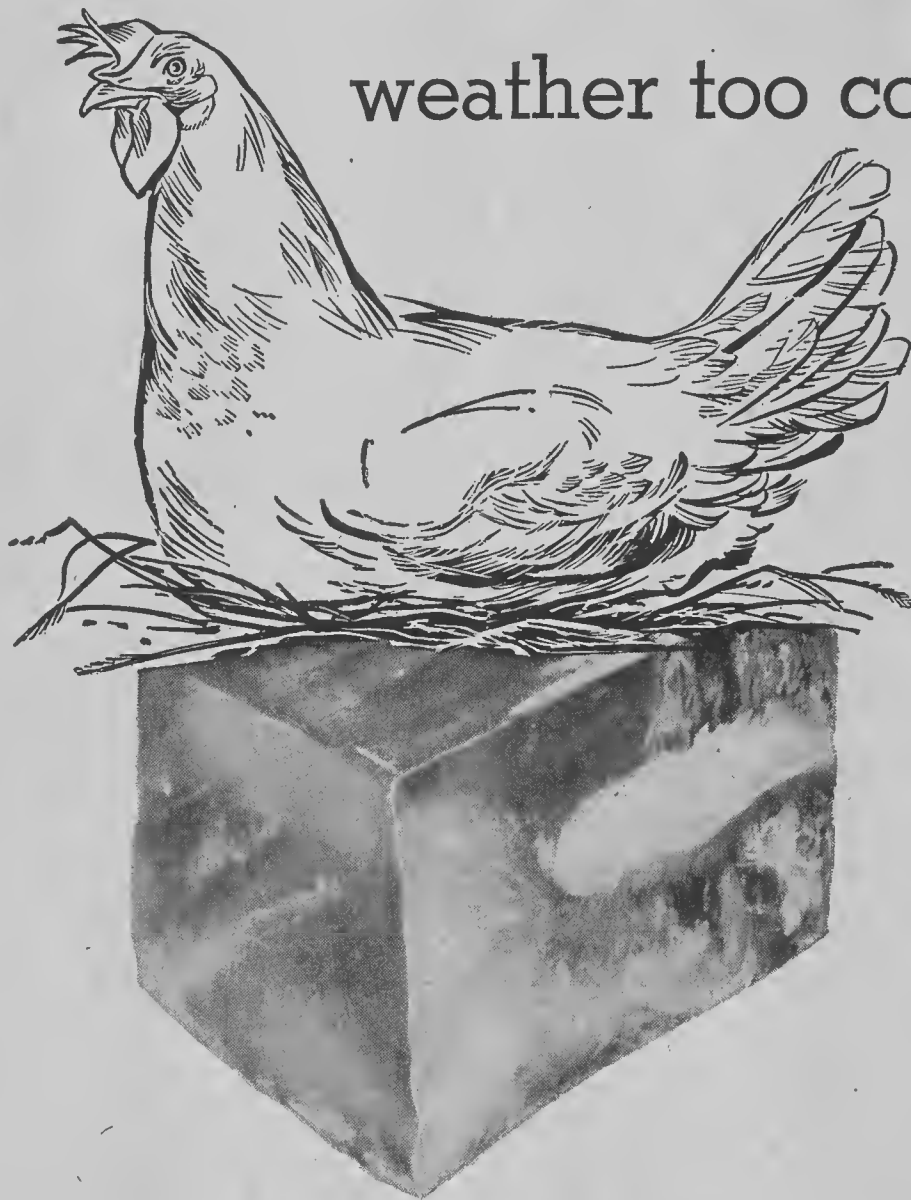
This trend makes sense to him because there's a better price for cattle without horns on account of the reduced risk of bruising. In one bunch of steers he sold, a horned one was by far the best animal, but the dehorned steers with it sold much better.

Although the registered purebreds are his chief interest, Jim McMullen

says he wouldn't be without the grade cattle, because he can always sell some when he needs to, which is important in making a balanced income from cattle. Having purebreds as well makes him more particular about the kind of herd bulls he has, and keeps up the standard of all his cattle.

He puts up 5,000 bales of hay annually, using a brome-alfalfa mixture and green grain on his farm at Killarney, Man. He also feeds grain, but no concentrates. If there's a delivery quota for his grain, there's still plenty left for that too.—R.C. ✓

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SOILS AND CROPS

Field Crops In Livestock Area



[Guide photo]

Willard Gauthier has a flair for good husbandry and keeping things tidy.

IN an area where most farmers lean heavily on livestock production, Willard Gauthier has built a prosperous farm on clover seed and grain. Not that he has anything against livestock. In fact, he has had both hogs and cattle and is preparing to go in for them again. But for the past few years he has operated successfully on his field crops with practically no income from livestock at all.

The Gauthier farm is located at Plamondon, Alta., about 15 miles west of Lac la Biche. Willard took over the land from his uncle about 18 years ago, and through good field husbandry practices, plus a natural flair for having things neat and tidy, has gradually built it into a showplace. One of the farm's standing rules is that tools and scraps must be picked up as soon as a job is finished, and the children (the Gauthiers have three girls and a boy) are taught to pick up any odd nails or pieces of glass found lying around.

Willard is just as careful with his fields as he is with his tools. Knowing the limitations of gray wooded soils, he works on a five-year rotation of clover, flax, and barley. After a field has produced clover seed for two

years (the clover builds up soil nitrogen), the sod is turned under and a crop of flax sown. This is followed by two seasons of barley, and then the field is replanted to clover. Soil fertility is maintained by working in both sod and stubble, and adding a 16-20 fertilizer at the rate of 65 pounds to the acre.

For the past three years, Willard has had the family enrolled in the Alberta Government's Farm and Home Improvement Plan under Sid Lore, District Agriculturist at Lac la Biche. His first project was a large dugout to increase the farm's water supply. At the same time, he demolished an old log barn and house on the place, and gravelled his access road. Next year he bought a Shorthorn bull, built a shelter and corral for it, and painted the farm buildings.

Two years under the Farm and Home Improvement Plan have netted the Gauthiers one silver cup and a blue seal certificate, which shows they have been very successful in meeting their objectives. The biggest gain of course, is that the work they've done marks another forward step toward the model operation most farmers dream about.—C.V.F. V

Some Varieties Can Baffle the Insects

HELP for the farmer who has his crops ravaged by insect pests is available through increased development of crop varieties that have been bred especially to resist insects. More than 20 such varieties have been bred to date, and many more are on the way.

"The general public, and even most entomologists, don't yet realize the possibilities in this field," stated Dr. R. H. Painter, Dept. of Entomology, Kansas State College, speaking to the 7th annual meeting of the Entomological Society of Canada, held recently at Lethbridge, Alta.

"As a matter of fact," he added, "the use of resistant plant varieties to fight insect pests has hardly been

touched for most crops—it offers particularly great promise for important horticultural crops."

This wouldn't mean that insecticides would become obsolete, Dr. Painter took care to point out. But it does mean a new and potent weapon in the form of a combined attack, utilizing both genetics and chemistry, on a common (and destructive) enemy. In Ohio at the present time, some 98 per cent of the field corn hybrids carry resistance to the European corn borer. This has caused a promising drop in the numbers of this insect, to a point where it's become a minor problem in field corn stands where resistant varieties have been planted. Two well-known crops that are proving to have

SOILS AND CROPS

inbred insect resistance, are Rescue wheat (wheat stem sawfly), and Ladak alfalfa (the pea aphid).

A plant's resistance to an insect is not due to any one factor in the plant's make-up, but is a combination of several factors. These include: plant tolerance, or what damage it can take and still produce—non-preference by the insect; that is, the plant is high on the insect's list of things it would sooner not eat (like the small boy who prefers ice cream to spinach)—and the plant's antibiosis, or the effect it has on the insect's life history and reproduction. Resistant plants may repel pests by giving off some odor, or merely fail to attract them by lacking some necessary feature, or odor—not much is known of this phase yet. The main fact to remember is that resistant plants can, and are, being bred.

As for insects developing a tolerance or appetite for new varieties, Dr. Painter discounts this.

"An insect which learns to feed on the new variety can't pass this discovery on to new generations," he said. "Over the years you might develop a tolerance for castor oil, but you couldn't pass this along to your son. Anyway, the life span of these insects is too short for them to learn much of anything."

One crop variety tested, which was found resistant to a particular insect in 1831, is still resistant to it. Once a resistant variety of any crop is developed, it tends to remain effective against that particular pest, which is one of the most heartening discoveries in this work—and one that promises to save the farmer a good deal of time and money. ✓

Corn Losses Can Be Reduced

"ALL is safely gathered in"—this phrase has a heartwarming sound at Thanksgiving, but no sensible farmer will regard it as the end of the story. Take corn for example, which is subject to losses in the crib. But these can be avoided, says G. F. H. Buckley of the Harrow Experimental Farm, Ont.

One of the chief causes of loss is high moisture content, which if it exceeds 25 per cent makes the kernel susceptible to mold damage, unless drying conditions are favorable. Ears with a lot of husk attached can also cause losses, because they cannot dry rapidly. For satisfactory drying, air must be able to circulate readily, which means that rectangular cribs should not be over five feet wide, or circular cribs more than six feet in diameter, unless a ventilator shaft is placed through the center of the crib.

Another way to improve air circulation, and protect the bottom of the crib from water damage, is to raise the crib about a foot off the ground. Most rodents can be kept out of the corn if the supporting pillars are fitted with tin or galvanized plates.

If you have temporary cribs, you can keep rain and snow out of them by covering them with cornstalks and straw. ✓

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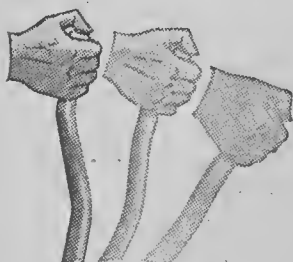
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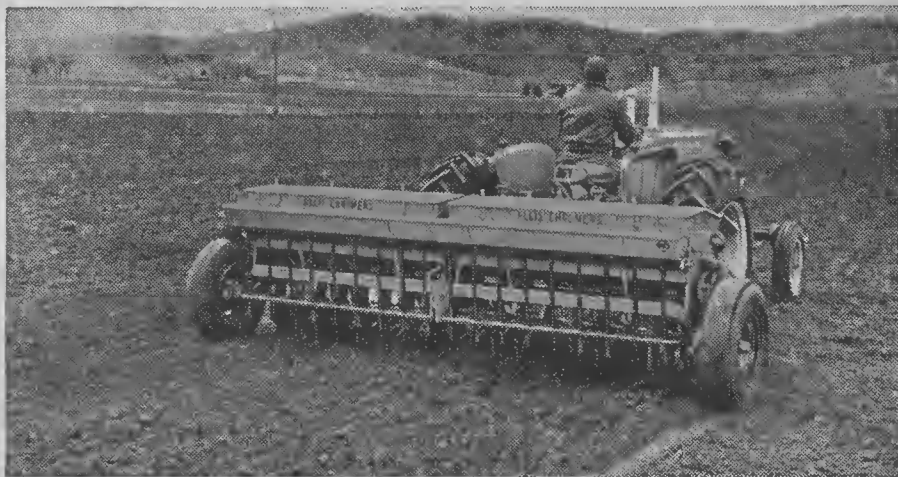
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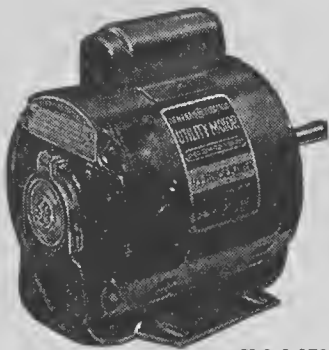


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SOILS AND CROPS

Watertrap For Grain Pests

HERE is a simple watertrap for finding out if there are insects in stored grain. F. L. Watters, in charge of stored product insect research for the Canada Department of Agriculture, says that he tested it in four 1,000-bushel granaries and a 25,000-bushel annex recently.

He took some six-ounce jars and filled them with water to within one inch of the top. The jars were spaced uniformly and pushed into the grain until the tops were level with the surface of the grain. After a week to 10 days, the jars were taken to the laboratory and examined. They contained most species of insects common to stored grain, but it was found that the greater the depth of grain, the fewer insects there were in the trap.

It seems that the insects are attracted to the watertraps by the high moisture content, and more of them are attracted in spring, summer and fall than in winter. This is because the pests come nearer to the surface in warmer weather.

Mr. Watters advises the use of anti-freeze in watertraps in cold weather, and also the use of waxed cardboard containers instead of glass jars, which

might break if there is danger of freezing. V

Armyworms Busy Last Summer

ARMYWORMS were very active in parts of southern Ontario last summer, particularly in hay and wheat fields, but also in fields of oats and corn. They will often stay with the hay and wheat until it is being harvested, and then move to other crops.

These worms are gray-brown and grow from one-half to two inches in length. They are most active in the late afternoon, so any bait that may be used for them should be laid down as soon as possible after mid-day. The cheapest and simplest way to control the armyworms is to plow a furrow around infested fields and scatter the poison bait in the furrow. The bait can consist of 100 pounds bran, 1 gallon molasses, 8 gallons water, plus 4 pounds paris green, or 1½ pounds Aldrin, Dieldrin or Heptachlor, or 2 pounds Chlordane, or 3 pounds Toxaphene.

If the worms are in oats or corn, scatter the bait over the field by hand, at 25 pounds per acre, or use as a spray or dust, without bait, according to the manufacturer's instructions. V

HORTICULTURE

Cold Store Keeps Apples for Spring



APPLE grower and poultryman Don Archibald (right), president of Archibald Farms Ltd., at Port Williams, N.S., takes some guidance from Charles Eaves of the Kentville Experimental Farm as he seals up his new 12,000-bushel, controlled atmosphere cold storage. They are measuring the temperature of an apple from the storage. The fruit will come out next spring, just about as fresh and juicy as it went in, and will help to extend the apple-eating season.

Archibald Farms grow about 500 acres of fruit, but their main enterprise is poultry. They have about 200,000 hens in their laying houses. —D.R.B. V

Potatoes For Making Chips

THE potatoes that make the best chips are the varieties which are high in specific gravity, indicating that their water content is low. This can be measured with a potato hydrometer, and the information can be obtained from departments of agri-

culture and experimental farms. The best variety differs from one area to another, so no general recommendation can be made.

The National Potato Conference in Ontario was told that maturity is highly desirable in potatoes for chips. Immature potatoes result in low yields of chips with a high oil content. When stored, they are likely to produce darker chips than mature potatoes. V

High Yields Of Sweet Corn

ADEQUATE spacing of sweet corn plants is required if high yields of good, marketable ears are to be secured, according to results at the Experimental Farm, Morden, Man. Distances of 42 inches between rows, and 12 inches in the row, give best results. Where hill planting is preferred, three to four plants per hill give the highest yields.

Close planting can delay maturity by several days, say the Farm officials, and thus, a variety that is inherently early may have its special purpose defeated. Moreover, the delay is greater when the plants are spaced close together in the row, than if the rows are closer together.

The spacing recommended at Morden is for areas of normal rainfall. In dry seasons, or under semi-arid conditions, wider spacing may be advantageous. When rainfall is normal, however, the plants too close together in the row may reduce the number of marketable ears per plant, although total yield may actually be increased. Where wider spacing is practiced under normal rainfall conditions, heavy tillering results, but the ears on the tillers are seldom of marketable size. V

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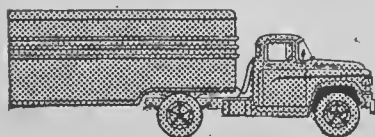
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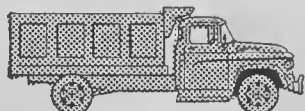
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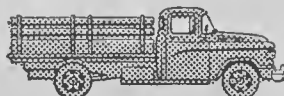
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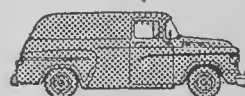
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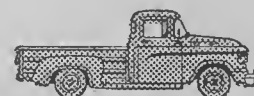
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POULTRY

Peacocks Live Alongside the Poultry



One of "Black-Shouldered" peacocks.



The "Aristocrat" is white-egg variety.

IN an area where grain and cattle are the order of the day, John and Gertrude Richards raise poultry, peacocks and sheep. As a matter of fact, sheep and poultry are good partners in any pasture rotation—the sheep act as "lawn mowers" to keep the grass trimmed down, then the hens are turned in to fertilize the range and keep the bug population in check. And the peacocks? Well, they add that touch of glamor which makes life worth living.

"You won't make any fortune with peacocks," John Richards points out, "because chick mortality is high. But they sure beautify the place."

John has been farming (or associated with it) in the Penhold, Alta., area all his life. He was born on the farm next door, which his father homesteaded in 1884—just before the start of the Northwest Rebellion. Today, he runs Corriedale sheep, Aristocrat hens, and peacocks of the Black-Shouldered variety. About the only complaint he

has with this combination is that it provides a popular drawing card for marauding coyotes.

The Aristocrat is an American "white egg" hen obtained by crossing White Leghorns and some undisclosed strain. It's quite a bit larger than the Leghorn, and not nearly as nervous or highly strung.

"Leghorns are too highly bred," John believes. "They're so nervous they go to pieces easily."

The Richards buy their poultry stock as day-old chicks and the birds generally reach a laying level of 50 per cent in the first six months.

As far as the peacocks are concerned, they're more of a hobby than anything else, although John has sold a few to various zoos on the prairies. The flock consists of two males and six females, and each hen produces about four chicks a year. Tame enough to eat out of anyone's hand, the big birds nest in the farm shelterbelt, and are allowed to run freely all over the place.

"They lay their eggs in late May," Richard explained, "maybe six or nine to a bird. But you can't pick those eggs up. You just have to leave them wherever they are, and the hen will come along and set on them."

It takes three years for a male peacock to reach maturity and develop that huge fan of tail feathers. Their total life span can be as long as 40 years. Asked about their qualities as a meat bird, John didn't know, but admitted that they might try one some day.—C.V.F. ✓

The long-term effects of the seaway are still obscure in Stormont County. It has been a dairy farm area for generations. But with the lower cheese and manufactured milk prices of recent years, and the reluctance of Montreal to build up its shipments from Ontario, as long as Quebec farmers can fill its requirements, many of the farms have become depressed. Drive along the road with anyone who knows the district, and he can point out farm after farm where farmers drive off to the seaway each morning, where wages are good, and return at night, leaving little time for work on the land.

Some have given up their farms, others are using the money to build up their stock and machinery. They hope in a couple of years, when the seaway is completed, they will be in a better position to farm competitively under today's conditions. Nobody knows how many have left the land for good. It is certain, however, that farming is undergoing a swift revolution in the St. Lawrence Seaway area. Farm labor is non-existent, and those staying with farming are being forced to mechanize even further, so they can do the work themselves.

There is no shortage of fluid-milk producers, and according to agricultural representative Ken Best at Stormont, there are dairymen waiting to pick up any openings that occur. Nevertheless, production of milk for manufacturing has fallen off this year compared with last, and one big plant in Glengarry County is working hard to build up its shipments. Prices have risen substantially from about \$2.50 last year to \$3 in June of this year. ✓

DAIRYING

Seaway Causes Dairy Farm Revolution

IT'S the fresh smell of the St. Lawrence River in the morning that Wes Ferguson misses most. Ontario Hydro told Wes and his father, John Ferguson, two years ago that their farm at Cornwall would be flooded, and they would have to move. They were compensated, like others who had to move, and they are relocated at Avonmore.

But Wes still thinks nostalgically of the pike and pickerel he used to take from the water that once fronted his



Here the dairy herd is seen getting acquainted with those new pastures.

farm, of the refreshing plunges after a hot day, or the breeze that blew away the hot, dusty oppressiveness of summer days, as the sun sunk in the west.

But in other ways the move has been a boon. He and his dad had a single farm before, but now have two about a mile apart, and a total of 200 cultivated acres. With the inrush of workers to the seaway valley, and the Cornwall district bursting at the seams, the demand for milk is good. It has increased the Ferguson shipments from 7 or 8 cans a day to 12, and they plan to boost it to 14, with a herd of 30 cows.

The new farms have enabled them to locate pastures closer to the buildings, and to adopt new techniques.

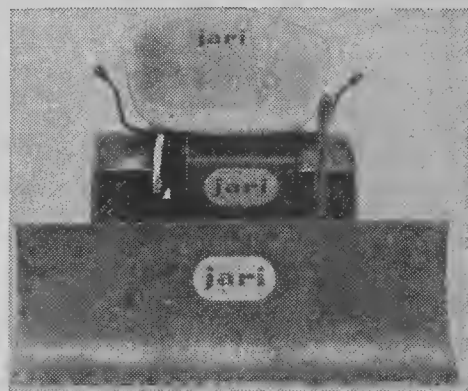


Wes Ferguson and his dad were among those farmers who were told to move.

WHAT'S NEW

SNOWPLOW BLADE

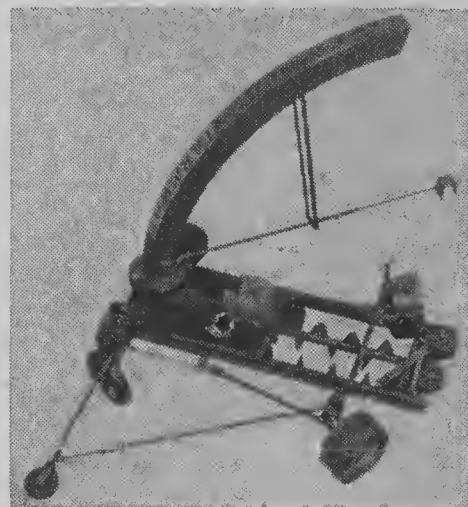
Here is a new 42-inch blade for converting the "PoweRide" riding mower into a snow mover. It is especially for clearing snow from drive-



ways and parking areas. The blade will adjust to three positions, with two adjustable skids to provide the desired clearance for paved or unpaved surfaces. Power can be applied independently to each wheel of the machine. (Jari Products Inc.) (196) ✓

SILO UNLOADER

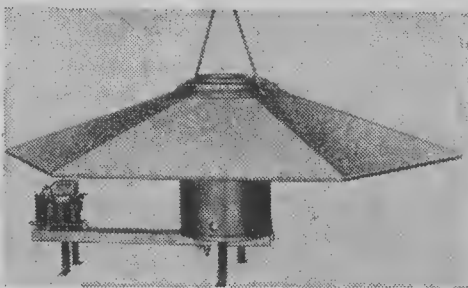
This device is described as a non-suspended silo unloader, with a single motor, twin augers and an open-bottom thrower. The dual augers, working in opposite directions, bring the silage from outside to center,



where it is discharged by the thrower. The augers have knives for grass and frozen silage, and there are knives on the dual clippers to keep silo walls clean. (The Farmway Co.) (197) ✓

KEROSENE BROODER

A rust-proof, porcelain enameled heat exchanger is a feature of this kerosene brooder, and is said to give better radiation and heat pattern. On account of clean burning, the brooder needs no flue, and its fuel consump-



tion ranges from 1½ to 3 gallons per day. There is a thermostat, 56-inch canopy, and a rope and pulley attachment for raising the canopy. (Cumberland Case Company.) (198) ✓

For further information about any item mentioned in this column, write to What's New Department, The Country Guide, 1760 Ellice Avenue, Winnipeg 12, giving the key number shown at end of each item, as—(17).

FARM MECHANICS

Machine Milking When the Power Fails

YOU can keep your milking machine running when the power fails. Here are four methods suggested by O. I. Berge of the University of Wisconsin.

Stand-by Generator. The best method is to have an electric generator which can be operated by a tractor or stationary engine. The generator should be large enough to operate the water pump and lights, as well as the milking machine. Be sure it is connected to the wiring system with a double-position switch, which automatically prevents current going out to the highline when the generator is in use.

Gasoline Engine. Some milking machines require electric current to operate the pulsator. The only ways to provide emergency power for these are with a standby generator, and by a small portable gasoline engine connected by a belt to the vacuum-pump generator unit. This engine should have a power rating 50 per cent greater than the electric motor it replaces. Also, the pulley on the engine must be 15 to 20 per cent smaller than the pulley on the motor, since the speed of the small engine is usually 15 to 20 per cent greater.

Tractor Power. The vacuum developed by the intake manifold of a gasoline tractor can run two or three single-unit milkers. Make an opening in the intake manifold, or just remove the plug from a hole previously made. Remove the manifold before drilling a hole, so that metal chips won't get into the engine. Drill with a 21/64-inch drill, and tap with a 1/8-inch pipe tap. To connect the 1/8-inch hole with the 3/4-inch hose, solder a 2-inch length of 1/8-inch pipe nipple inside a male hose connection, or use any combination of fittings which will adapt the pipe to the hose size. Then get a garden hose long enough to connect the tractor to a stall-cock on the vacuum tank, making sure that the hose has fairly stiff walls and is free from kinks and holes. Also drain it of all water, sand or other loose material. Connect the garden hose to the stall-cock with a female hose connector and a short length of milker hose.

Be sure to leave the tractor outside the barn to avoid fire and carbon

monoxide hazards, and run the engine just fast enough to prevent stalling when the stall-cocks are open. You may have to use the choke, pinch the hose, or close the stall-cock to get the tractor started. Use the regular milker-line vacuum control, since the tractor manifold vacuum is usually too high for milking. If you prefer to employ a car or truck engine, use the vacuum connection ordinarily connected to the windshield wiper.

Air Compressor. The fourth method is to connect the milker vacuum line to the intake side of an engine-driven air compressor, which reduces the danger of fire or carbon monoxide poisoning. Make up adapters to fit the air compressor intake opening, and use a garden hose with the adapters.

It is a good idea to try one of these emergency measures right now, so that you'll be ready if the power fails. V

Play Safe On Winter Roads

HERE'S some useful advice on winter driving from the National Safety Council of the United States. Winterize your car, but also winterize your driving technique. Whether you use regular or snow tires, make certain that the tread has not worn smooth, and use reinforced tire chains for deep snow, hard packed snow or ice. Remember that slower than normal speeds are a must on snow or ice.

Keep your windshield and windows clear. Clean off the snow and ice, and be sure that your wiper blades, heater and defroster are working properly. Also ventilate to keep the inside of the windows from fogging.

Try your brakes occasionally when you're away from traffic and driving slowly, to find out if the road is slippery, and then adjust your speed. Keep well back of the vehicle ahead, leaving plenty of room to stop. Pump your brakes to stop quickly on snow or ice, using a fast up-and-down action. Jamming and holding your brakes will almost certainly lock your wheels and throw you into an uncontrollable skid. V



Portable Fence Posts

THIS triangular fence post is ideal for electric fences that have to be moved constantly under a rotational grazing system. Posts can be thrown into a truck, dropped off at three- or four-rod intervals across a field, and the wire strung on them in a matter of minutes. The picture was taken on the F. E. Courlay and Sons ranch at Millarville, Alta.—C.V.F. V

Now, get completely automatic harvesting at $\frac{1}{3}$ the cost of the baler method!

The McKee 'One-Man' SHREDDER HARVESTER

Here's the way to handle hay, grass silage or straw easily by yourself. With the McKee Shredder Harvester, you save the high cost of extra help. You go right ahead when the time is right and put in as much as 20 tons per day.

No forking!

McKee is first in the field with a completely automatic harvesting system. The McKee Harvester loads in the field and travels with the tractor and wagon. And with the new automatic unloading wagon, puts hay in the barn by itself. You never have to lift a fork!

No bales to lift—no twine to buy!

Actual figures prove that bulk handling with the McKee Harvester gives you big savings. With labour for both methods figured in at \$1.00 per hour, the McKee method takes hay from windrow to barn for 97c per ton—as against \$2.54 per ton for baler method! And the McKee Harvester doesn't chop the hay, but shreds it for better feeding and handling.

Field-proved by Canadian farmers

The McKee Shredder Harvester is Canadian-made by forage harvester specialists—men who have really studied the farmer's needs. Its rugged, simple construction has been tested and proved by 7 years of service under all conditions. Find out now how it will save you money right down the line!



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IMPERIAL BANK OF CANADA

Condensed 83rd Annual Statement
October 31, 1957

ASSETS

Cash resources.....	\$156,543,413
Securities and call loans.....	205,622,431
Total quick assets.....	\$362,165,844
Loans.....	411,291,916
N.H.A. mortgages.....	35,159,601
Bank premises.....	12,109,626
Letters of credit and other assets.....	21,638,912
	<u>\$842,365,899</u>

LIABILITIES

Deposits.....	\$775,999,724
Letters of credit and other liabilities.....	24,515,949
Total liabilities to the public.....	\$800,515,673
Capital, rest and undivided profits.....	41,850,226
	<u>\$842,365,899</u>

STATEMENT OF EARNINGS

Profits after making transfers to inner reserves.....	\$ 6,027,978
Income taxes.....	3,240,000
	<u>\$ 2,787,978</u>
Dividends.....	1,904,000
	<u>\$ 883,978</u>
Undivided profits brought forward.....	766,248
	<u>\$ 1,650,226</u>
Transfer to rest account.....	1,000,000
Balance of undivided profits.....	<u>\$ 650,226</u>

J. S. PROCTOR,
President

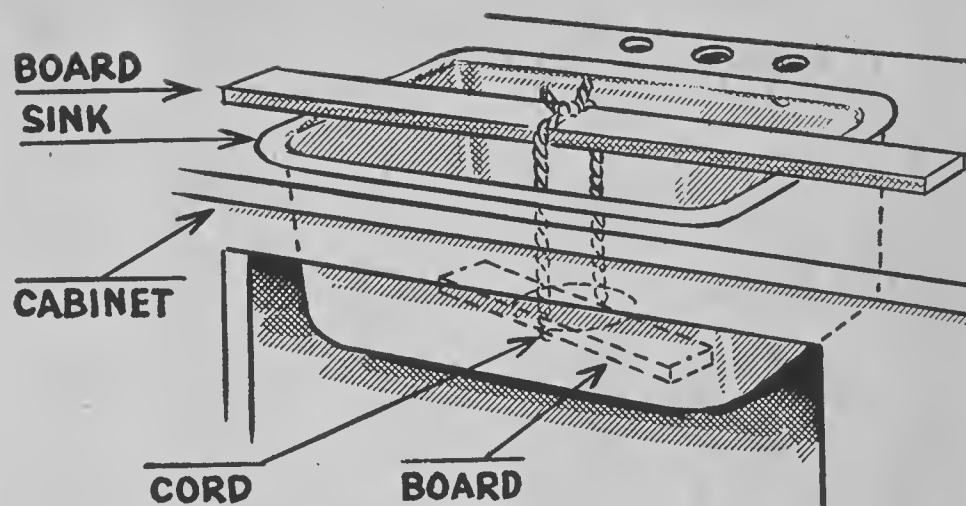
E. J. FRIESEN,
General Manager

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236-7

WORKSHOP

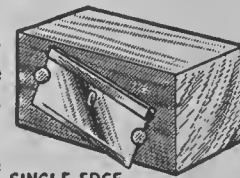
Installing a Sink



When you have to install a heavy kitchen sink single-handed, and it is of the type fastened by clamps from below, you can hold it in position quite easily while you're working on it. You will need two pieces of scrap wood and a length of cord.

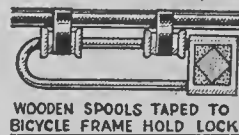
If you look at the sketch, you will see that the top strip of wood must reach across the cabinet opening, so that it can rest on the top of the cabinet. The lower piece should be about a foot long, with the cord tied securely to it. Then you slip the two free ends of the cord up through the hole in the bottom of the sink, and bring them up and over the top wood strip. Tie the ends together tightly, allowing sufficient length of cord to hold the lower piece of wood snug against the bottom of the sink. Then you can suspend the sink in position, while you fix it. —H.E.F., Texas. V

Cutter for cardboard. A simple and efficient cutter for corrugated cardboard can be made by thumb-tacking a single-edge razor blade to a small block. Set the blade to cut barely through the cardboard, and when one end of the blade is dulled, just turn it around. —G.M.E., Alta. V



SINGLE EDGE
RAZOR BLADE TACKED TO
BLOCK CUTS CARDBOARD

Bicycle Lock Carrier. A bicycle lock will not rattle or scratch the frame if it is locked in this carrier. The carrier is made by stapling two reels, properly spaced, to the top bar of the bicycle frame. Drill larger holes through the spools, if they are too small. —G.M.E., Alta. V



WOODEN SPOOLS TAPED TO
BICYCLE FRAME HOLD LOCK

Continued from page 11

HOW FARMERS FARED

What Canada cannot afford to have develop are widespread farm surpluses such as were induced by rigid parity in the U.S. Parity is an incentive to greater production, not only because of higher minimum prices, but because it reduces risk.

The railways applied for another hike in general freight rates this year. In 1956 there were two rate increases authorized—an increase of 7 per cent in June, and one of 4 per cent in December. The request this time is for an increase of 10 per cent in order that net earnings of the C.P.R. will be high enough to attract needed capital for expansion. The Canadian Federation of Agriculture has again opposed the request on the grounds that, in application, it would discriminate against farmers. At this writing, the decision on the freight rate increase has not been announced.

Other events of more than passing interest during 1957 were the completion of publication of the "1956 Census of Agriculture" and the publication of the Gordon Royal Commission's Volume "Progress and Prospects of Canadian Agriculture." The 1956 Census shows that the structural shifts in our agricultural industry, foreseen by the Gordon Commission, are happening even faster than forecasted.

Quebec has joined the familiar trend in other provinces toward fewer and larger farms.

Our mortgage credit facilities for agriculture have long been under attack as inadequate, inappropriate and old-fashioned. I think that this criticism is valid, providing we recognize that more and better credit must be devised so as not to cause greater surpluses. Raising the maximum loan under the Canadian Farm Loan Board from \$15,000 to \$20,000 would, at best, be a temporary and partial repair.

Let us now focus our attention on what has been happening to the various commodities during 1957.

GRAINS VALUE DOWN. The grain crop is down sharply from last year's high level. This drop in grain production, due mainly to an arid summer on the prairies, represents an estimated drop in value of \$350 million.

This financial reverse will be reflected, accounting-wise, in a lower end-of-year evaluation of farm inventories. In terms of current solvency, this financial blow will be softened by the cash advances which are to be paid on farm-stored grain. These advances are to be made at the rates of 50¢ bu. for wheat, 35¢ bu. for barley



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... then you'll be happy to know how we have improved the hearing and relieved those miserable ear noises, caused by catarrh of the head, for thousands of people (many past 70) who have used our simple Elmo Palliative HOME TREATMENT. This may be the answer to your prayer. NOTHING TO WEAR. Here are SOME of the symptoms that may likely be causing your catarrhal deafness and ear noises: Head feels stopped up from mucus. Dropping of mucus in throat. Hawking and spitting. Mucus in nose or throat every day. Hearing worse with a cold. Hear — but don't understand words. Hear better on clear days. Worse on rainy days. Ear noises like crickets, bells, whistles, clicking, escaping steam or others. If your condition is caused by catarrh of the head, you, too, may enjoy wonderful relief such as others have reported during our past 20 years. WRITE TODAY FOR PROOF OF RELIEF AND 30 DAY TRIAL OFFER. THE ELMO COMPANY DEPT. FCG9 DAVENPORT, IOWA



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If You're TIRED ALL THE TIME

Everybody gets a bit run-down now and then, tired-out, heavy-headed, and maybe bothered by backaches. Perhaps nothing seriously wrong, just a temporary toxic condition caused by excess acids and wastes. That's the time to take Dodd's Kidney Pills. Dodd's stimulate the kidneys, and so help restore their normal action of removing excess acids and wastes. Then you feel better, sleep better, work better. Get Dodd's Kidney Pills now. Look for the blue box with the red band at all druggists. You can depend on Dodd's. 52

and 20¢ bu. for oats. Payments begin on the 1957 crop, and are on the basis of six bushels per "specified" acre (i.e. acres in crops plus fallow) but not exceeding \$3,000 to any farmer. According to rough estimates, these advances may mean a net increase in cash income to prairie farmers this calendar year of about \$75 million.

The Wheat Board is to borrow the funds for the advances from the banks, and the federal treasury pays the interest charges. It has been pointed out by critics that the small grain grower will not be greatly relieved of current financial embarrassment, because a farmer would have to have 1,000 specified acres to be eligible for the maximum advance.

WHEAT ACREAGE, YIELD AND PRICE LOWER. The wheat crop at 21 million acres was about 1¼ million acres less than last year. This cutback in seeding, in addition to a sharply reduced yield per acre, resulted in a drop of nearly 200 million bushels from last year's crop of 573 million bushels. In spite of the smaller crop, our wheat supplies on August 1 stood at 1,093 million bushels, a decrease of only 60 million bushels from a year earlier. This is because wheat and flour exports this year have fallen off drastically. There was a record carry-over from the 1956-57 crop year of 723 million bushels, 319 million of which were farm-stored. (Should we remind ourselves that the average carry-over for the 15 years prior to 1951 was 178 million bushels?)

To see clearly what has happened to our wheat exports, one has to compare the calendar years 1956 and 1957. During the first nine months of 1957, the value of our wheat exports plunged by more than a third compared with this same period in 1956. Shipments to the U.K. were down, and there were no sales to Iron Curtain countries. The U.K., Japan, West Germany, Belgium and the Netherlands continued to be our big buyers.

U.S. barter deals have justly received much of the blame for our drop in exports this year. The increase in world trade in wheat during 1956-57 was mainly accounted for by increased U.S. exports. Even though the U.S., on its own accord, cut back on barter dealing this summer, nearly 1¼ million bushels of U.S. wheat were bartered during the quarter July-September. After making inter-governmental and public protests, Canada has been given some assurance that the former devastating tempo of U.S. bartering will not be resumed.

International wheat prices have been slipping throughout the year, and the prospects are not encouraging. The total world wheat production this year is estimated at 7.6 billion bushels, only a little below the 1956 record. The total U.S. wheat supplies for 1957-58 are estimated at 1,843 million bushels, which is down from the last three years, but remains formidable. France has a good crop this year and will likely return to an export basis. By mid-November the U.S. had already sold over one-third of its 1957-58 I.W.A. quota. The reduction of U.S. bartering is only a partial relief. Loans have been made to Japan (one of our largest buyers) to enable her to increase her purchases of U.S. wheat. On the other hand, the 50 million bushels of our wheat which

Russia agreed to take by early 1959 have yet to be delivered. In the current fiscal year Canada is to contribute a total of \$10 million worth of wheat to India, Pakistan and Ceylon under the Colombo Plan. Moreover, the better quality of our wheat this year should make it easier to sell. It looks as if Canada will have to increase her share of world wheat trade this coming year against a shrinking total volume of international trade in wheat.

The effect of these events will become sharper, I think, when the Wheat Board makes its postponed payments on the 1956-57 pool.

COARSE GRAINS INCOME DOWN TOO. The production of coarse grains is also much reduced this year. The acreage and yield of oats dropped, particularly in the prairies. The large carry-over from last year's bumper crop, however, prolongs a situation of fairly large stocks. Exports of oats rose steeply this year, mostly to the U.S. But prices are down, and no interim payment is to be paid on 1956-57 oats. The Board's initial price for 1957-58 No. 2 C.W. oats was lowered from 65¢ to 60¢ per bushel.

Barley and rye acreages were up this year, and the rye crop increased, but barley production dropped due to poor yields. After mid-year, our export of barley slumped, particularly overseas. Exports of rye petered out to zero by September. Prices of barley and rye also slipped this year.

The acreage and production of mixed grains are down in 1957, due to a large drop in Ontario, the major producing province.

LIVESTOCK OUTCOME UNCERTAIN. Final cash income from livestock and livestock products this year may be above that in 1956, but there was cause for doubting this at the time of writing. Hog marketings were down from last year, and exports of hogs and pork were a long way down. There was still an embargo on imports of U.S. hogs and pork. Hog prices held well up until October, but the drop since then has been substantial. This may be more than the usual seasonal dip; so hog prices may deteriorate further throughout 1958.

Net cattle marketings are up about 5 per cent over last year, and cattle and beef exports are well up. The U.S. beef market has been stronger than ours. Lower Canadian prices than last year have tended to offset the heavier cattle marketings. Prices are due for an upward cyclical swing, however. Continued low prices for the rest of 1957 may be due to seasonal factors. A favorable omen for 1958 may be the substantial decline this year in stocks of beef in cold storage, compared with 1956 and with the last 5-year period. At any rate, with the U.S. market likely to remain strong due to a lower inventory of cattle there, our beef cattle prices in 1958 should register gains.

Veal calf marketings and prices have increased slightly compared with 1956, and since September there has been a seasonal firming of prices. Sheep and lamb marketings are up a little this year compared with 1956, but cold storage stocks are also up. Prices for good lambs have not shown

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Science Now Shrinks Piles Without Pain or Discomfort

Finds Substance That Relieves Pain And Itching As It Shrinks Hemorrhoids

Toronto, Ont. (Special)—For the first time science has found a new healing substance with the ability to shrink hemorrhoids and to relieve pain and itching. Thousands have been relieved with this inexpensive substance right in the privacy of their own home without any discomfort or inconvenience.

In case after case, while gently relieving pain actual reduction (shrinkage) took place.

Most amazing of all—results were so thorough that sufferers made statements like "Piles have ceased to be a problem!"

The secret is a new healing substance (Bio-Dyne)—discovery of a famous scientific institute.

Now this new healing substance is offered in suppository or ointment form called Preparation H. Ask for it at all drug stores—money back guarantee.

any consistent pattern of divergence from last year. But because of a premium over U.S. prices, Canada has imported more lambs.

Farm cash income from poultry and eggs probably is down from last year's figure, due to lower prices. Numbers of poultry on farms were well up over last year. Excess supplies of eggs in the prairies prompted the Liberal administration to invoke wider price supports on eggs, and the Prices Support Board made heavy purchases.

Stocks of poultry in cold storage, which had reached high levels at the end of 1956, remained high through-

out 1957. In July 1957, the new government agreed to support turkey and fowl prices, and also imposed import embargoes. Prices then firmed. Turkey marketings are expected to continue high for the remainder of this year, however.

DAIRYING BUOYANT. The review of dairying in 1957 is conspicuously rosy. Farm income from dairying is definitely higher than in 1956, due to higher prices. In September, for example, prices paid to farmers for fluid milk were higher than a year earlier in all major cities

excepting Vancouver. Prices of dairy products were also up. Feed costs were down.

Total milk production this year is only slightly above last year, but fluid milk and cream sales are up and butter production and sales are down. Butter stocks are a way down for a change (27 per cent lower on October 1), and prices are up. There have been no butter exports since January. In order not to deplete its butter stocks, the Prices Support Board raised its selling price to 63¢ per pound. Margarine production and consumption are up this year.

The production of cheddar cheese, evaporated milk and skim milk powders is up, but the output of process cheese, condensed whole milk, whole milk powder and casein is down. The production of skim milk powder jumped in response to the price support extended in March by the Liberal administration. With fluid milk prices rising, the consumption of skim milk powder also rose. Nevertheless, such has been the rise in output that stocks of skim milk powder (mainly to the account of the Prices Support Board) are more than double their normal for this time of year. A check had to be placed on imports. The temptation to dump our stocks on the world market will be hard to resist.



FEEDLOT INTERVIEW WITH LOU AND BOB MYERS, FRANKFORT, INDIANA

Pioneered supplements with 'Stilbosol'...

"Cattle have done far better than ever before"

'Stilbosol'-fed cattle top market. Myers' 37 head average 2.89 pounds daily gain at feed cost of only 14½¢ per pound...pay weight to pay weight.

by Eugene S. Hahnel

Lou Myers, who with Mrs. Myers will celebrate a golden wedding anniversary this year, has been farming and feeding cattle "ever since I've been able to carry a bucket," as he puts it. Lou is Bob Myers' father. Together, they operate 440 acres on a 50-50 rental basis with the landowner.

The Myers first fed supplements with 'Stilbosol' in December, 1954...one of the very first in the country. "Yes, we're still using it. We know it has been a big help to our cattle feeding operation, and we feel our cattle have done far better since we've been feeding it than ever before," agree father and son.

Most Myers-fed cattle dress out between 59% and 62%. Myers' final finishing ration includes 10 pounds of shelled corn, 10 pounds of crushed corn-and-cob meal, and 2 pounds of a finishing supplement with 'Stilbosol.'

The Myers' 37 head of market toppers averaged 2.89 pounds daily gain for 91 days on feed. This lot was on an alfalfa-brome-ladino pasture most of the time, which helped make economical gains of 14½¢ per pound.



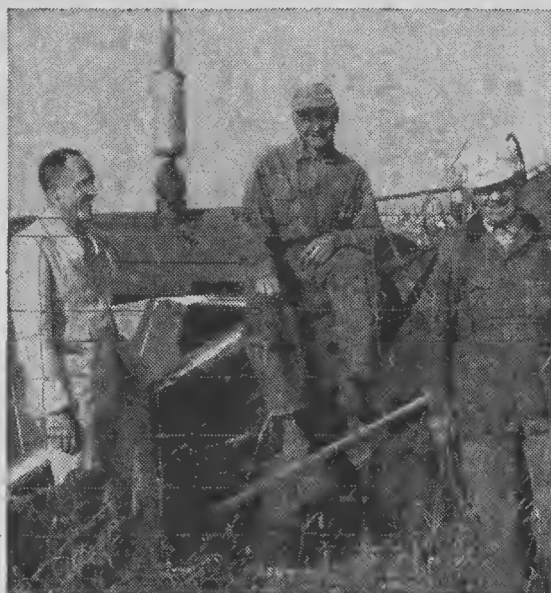
The Myers fed the 37 head of ration of crushed corn-and-cob meal plus supplement with 'Stilbosol' on alfalfa-brome-ladino pasture. To save labor, they use auger-equipped wagons and fill them by gravity flow from a new overhead granary holding 15,000 bushels of ear corn and 8,000 bushels of grain. Scales located directly under the granary weigh grain and supplement automatically.

(Canadian distributor: Charles Albert Smith, Ltd., 356 Eastern Avenue, Toronto 8, Ontario)

ELI LILLY AND COMPANY (CANADA) LIMITED, TORONTO, ONTARIO



Lou (right) and Bob Myers feed between 350 and 400 cattle, and 1,000 to 1,200 hogs a year. Five drilled wells with pressure water systems furnish plenty of fresh water at all times to every hog and cattle lot.



Experienced as they are, the Myers still like and use the many services offered by their feed company representative, Dale Galloway (left). "We appreciate the helpful advice Dale gives us on feeding and management,"

INCOME FROM FRUITS AND VEGETABLES MAY BE UP. The cash income situation for fruits and vegetables is not yet clear. Production is up, but the net effect of changes in prices of the various items is in doubt. The total apple crop is up over 1956, but this was due mainly to a much bigger crop in B.C. Apple production in Nova Scotia, Quebec and Ontario was down. Apple exports were down and processed stocks were up over last year. Except for McIntosh in Quebec, apple prices are lower this fall.

About 311,000 acres of potatoes were planted this year compared with 312,500 last year, and the size of the crop produced this year decreased more than in proportion because the yield per acre was less. The onion acreage was about the same as last year, and the acreages in carrots and in beans, corn, peas and tomatoes for processing increased. Because of adverse weather, however, the packs of corn and tomatoes are expected to be smaller than last year.

THE new profile of Canadian agriculture is emerging more clearly. It is definitely moving from an export basis toward a domestic market basis. Wheat only appears to be the important exception because it has so much farther (and will require so much longer) to shift to a domestic basis. There is an underlying diversion toward feed grains to supply the more dynamic livestock industry. For several other commodities, there even appears to be a tendency to move onto an import basis. We can expect therefore that Canadian farmers will become more and more protection-minded in tariff policy.

Farmers and consumers agree on the basic importance of food, but they draw entirely different conclusions from it. The farmers feel that producers of anything so basic as food should be protected and rewarded. The consumers feel that anything so basic as food should be plentiful and cheap.

There is one way of reconciling both of these goals. Ever-increasing efficiency can achieve both greater prosperity for agriculture and good cheap food for consumers—providing the inevitable decrease in number of farmers is facilitated, and not resisted, by short-run policies which so often conflict with long-run adjustments in production.

(Note: Dr. W. E. Haviland is professor of agricultural economics, Macdonald College of McGill University, Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Que.—ed.)



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Continued from page 13

A POINT OF VIEW

there far too long and was weary of it all.

A typical ranch dog wagged a welcome. The mountie detoured around him, and went through the small garden to reach the door. It was dusk. From inside a kerosene lamp gleamed fitfully. When he knocked someone turned the radio news broadcast down. The door slowly opened and a grizzled head appeared. Slow recognition brought a smile of welcome, because, to the old-timer in this country, the uniform of the police represented all the best from his youth.

"Come in, come in," he said. "Mother, set another place—here's one of the police."

The mountie demurred, and said he was worried about finding the track home to the detachment. He bent down and entered the door to find himself in a large, low-ceilinged kitchen. Two doors led into bedrooms. The old lady was standing by the stove. She wiped her hands on her apron and shook hands with a warm smile. She could have been beautiful a good many years ago. They gave him a chair. During the formalities he took stock of the room. It was clean but hardly comfortable. The poor old stove was coming apart at the seams and must have been bought at the beginning of the century. Beside the stove stood a pail of fresh drinking water with a dipper. The old man had gone back to his chair, a rocker that was patched with a piece of an apple box. An ancient table with an oilcloth cover held the lamp.

AFTER the usual talk of crops and weather, the mountie asked if they had ever shipped cattle to St. Paul. Why sure, they had been sending critters there on and off for close to 45 years. Did you remember shipping a couple of carloads there the year before? They thought it was possible. And then the mountie brought out the letter and told them about the commission agents writing about this big cheque. Had they received it? They thought they must have, because the firm had always made prompt payment. Well, then, had they cashed it, and where had it been cashed?

The old fellow scratched his head, turned to the old woman and said: "Mother, think you could find the records?"



Mother shuffled over to the cupboard, took down a shoe box and dumped the contents on the table. The old fellow found his steel-rimmed glasses and tried to help sort out the bits of paper, holding the odd receipt, bill or envelope up so that the light from the lamp would shine on them.

While they were thus engaged the mountie looked around again. How they could have used a light plant, a kerosene refrigerator, a decent chair to sit upon. He figured the old house wasn't even insulated; at their time of

life they would surely enjoy a little comfort.

Finally, the old boy swept the papers aside, and, with a satisfied sigh, placed on the table a long envelope, saying: "I'll bet this is what you want."

The mountie came over, slipped a letter out and unfolded it. Attached by a paper clip was the cheque for the full amount. It was more than 12 months old.

Turning sharply to the old couple, but with a smile, he asked: "But why didn't you cash this cheque?"

The old man looked around him in the gloom, spreading his work-worn hands wide, palms up, "But we don't need anything," he replied.



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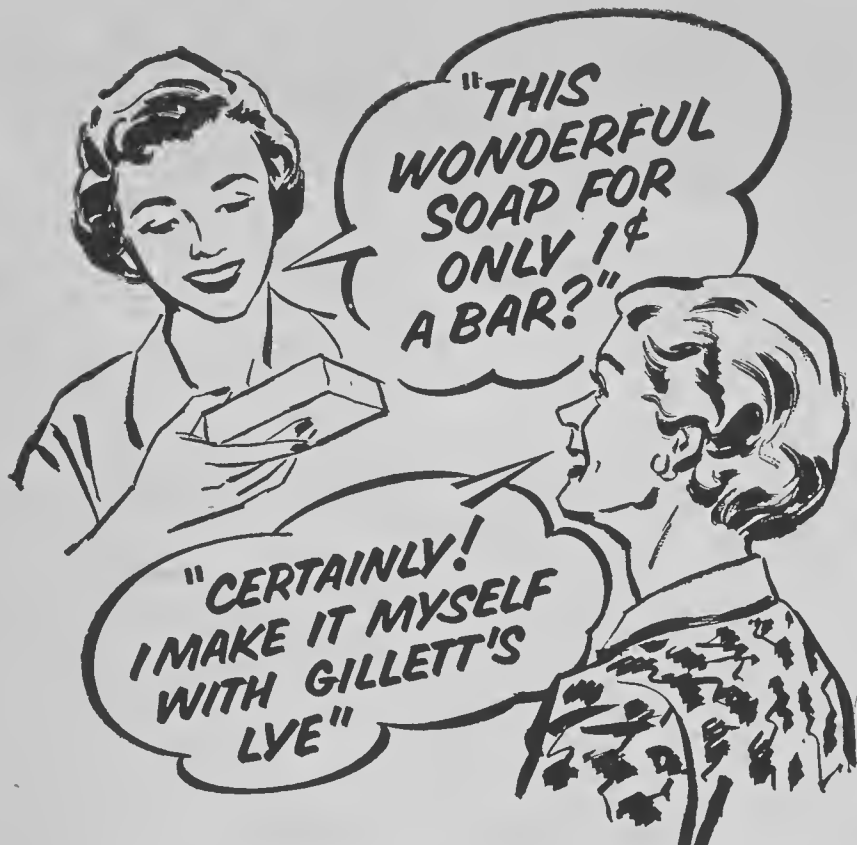
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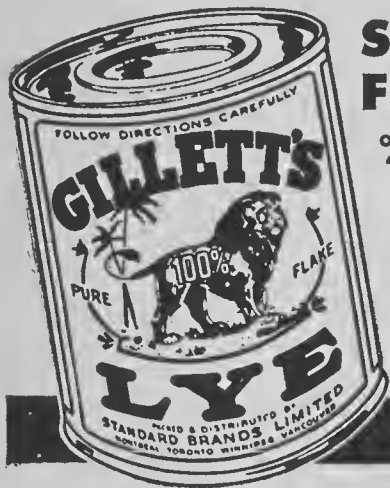
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Continued from page 14

NEIGHBORS WITH A PURPOSE

do a lot of kicking. Afterwards, they proudly fluff their fur and separate the hairs."

While we were talking I put the baby chinchilla back in her pen. She eyed us curiously for a moment from wide-open, clear sparkling eyes. Then, with a swish of a well-defined curl already showing in her tail, she hopped about with snap and spring, glancing inquisitively into other cages. "She's just like most chinchillas, interested in what's going on about them," Mr. Henke remarked with a smile.

Both Eve and Frank commute to offices in Toronto, and I wondered how they managed to keep their chinchillas looking so radiant in immaculate pens. The Henkes informed me that chinchillas do not require much care,—just a few minutes per animal every day. However, they both spend extra time with them because they like to study the chinchillas and learn about their likes and dislikes. They consider a regular routine saves time and money. Every day Frank checks their condition and removes litter from the pens, while Eve looks after their baths and feeds them. They keep a daily log recording the history of their valuable pets—matings, births, changes in diet, etc. They also keep a monthly weight chart on individual animals to discover pregnancies, and any loss of weight.

"After the initial expense of purchasing, chinchillas are not expensive to raise," Mr. Henke pointed out. He paid \$1,500 for the pair he bought in 1955.

"They eat apples, nuts, hay and dried food," he told me.

"And they love raisins," Eve said.

To round off their diet the Henkes give them pellets that contain cereal grains, cod liver oil and all the necessary vitamins.

CHINCHILLAS like a clean dry home with plenty of light and fresh air, but no drafts. They exercise themselves, and need a pen large enough to make quite a few hops across it. Mr. and Mrs. Henke provide their chinchillas with round wire pens so that they are free of corners which accumulate dirt difficult to remove. And chinchillas don't like their homes too hot. Temperatures from 55 to 75 seem to suit them.

Once they are comfortably established, chinchillas can settle down to the serious business of courting. When they are older and set in their ways, wooing sometimes gets a bit out of hand. And in a fight the female is usually triumphant.

"There's less chance of fighting if you put the couple together when they are sleepy, and that's during the day," Mr. Henke said. "In this way they get acquainted with each other before night. In the daytime they are too lethargic to stage a fight."

Chinchillas are nocturnal animals and catch up on their snoozing in daylight.

I remarked that these fluffy new neighbors of mine seemed gentle and

lovable. Eve and Frank agreed that their pets really had happy dispositions.

Mr. Henke told me that the new baby would be tattooed when it was six months, or older, with their ranch brand to provide a permanent identification. "We do that with all our chinchillas," he added.

I was not surprised that Mr. and Mrs. Henke identified their growing chinchilla family with their ranch brand "High Oaks." They have come a long way to establish a home. In less than two and a half years my blond young neighbors from Germany are achieving their purpose. They are breeding chinchillas of distinction in their adopted country, Canada. ✓

Continued from page 16

TICK PARALYSIS

failed to become paralyzed themselves, plus the known fact of the victim's rapid recovery once the tick is removed. If the condition wasn't brought on by a germ, then it must be the result of some toxin, or poison, carried by the individual tick. This theory was strengthened by the fact that tick paralysis is similar to that caused by curare, a poison used by South Sea natives.

Where does the tick get this poison? It is believed that it manufactures the stuff in its body from blood sucked from its victims, much the same way other animals convert their food into energy, tissue, and blood. This poison has been found in the salivary glands of ticks, and in the muscle tissues of its victims. Some idea of its potency was indicated when workers at the University of Washington, Seattle, found the poison was active even when diluted in a solution of one part per 10 million.

AT the present time, the paralysis tick is being controlled in livestock herds by spraying the animals with a very strong solution of benzene hexachloride. Some work is also being done with pasture sprays, using dieldrin or heptachlore, at the rate of one lb. per acre. There is no known antidote for the poison itself, but researchers at Kamloops are very close to finding out just what the substance is.

By taking movie close-ups of this tiny, crawling poison factory, and re-running them in slow motion, they are learning something of how the tick's machinery works. Once this is discovered, they will be able to synthesize the poison, and tick paralysis can be combatted with inoculations which will neutralize the poison in the victim's blood stream. The medical profession is keenly interested in learning the tick's trade secrets, too, in the hope that the toxin will prove another valuable drug for human use. Within its loathsome little body the Rocky Mountain wood tick may hold the secret to several crippling diseases which now plague mankind. ✓

Continued from page 15

AND IT CAME TO PASS

offer to his family. He must indeed be a failure.

How was he to know that Mother Olson was thinking of the years also? She looked wistfully at her two daughters and her husband. She would have no bags of candy, oranges and nuts for them this Christmas. There would be no gifts at all. But how far could a mother's love go without money? In the past, each Christmas had meant laughter, songs and presents around the tree. She roused herself from her thoughts and pushed the coffee pot over to the front of the stove to heat for Eric. "Be sure to put the cups on their hooks, Ellen," she said aloud.

"I don't know why dishes have to be put in a certain place anyway," Ellen grumbled as she gave the dish-towel another swing. The girl was 16 now, with blonde hair, blue eyes and long lashes. She was wondering if Christmas without the thrill of receiving or the expense of giving was all a part of growing up. She stared somberly out of the pantry window. If only she had just one new thing for Christmas, just one. "At least it could snow," she complained as she rattled cups and saucers. "Don't you wish it would snow, Nora?"

NORA sat by the east window, thinking how her mood matched the bleakness of the day. She was the older sister and she shared the three east rooms downstairs in the big house with her husband, Bob. They had been married in June, and now, with herself in the early stages of pregnancy and Bob without work, the young wife wondered how anyone could look forward to Christmas. "It would be prettier if it would snow," she agreed with Ellen. "I wonder where Bob is."

Eric didn't sit down to the second breakfast which sat on the table for him. He looked about once more. The fire crackled up the pipe and the smell of fresh bread was still there. He took the basin from the sink, poured water into it from the steaming kettle and cooled it with water from the pump. "Vell," he said, and when he talked there was a trace of the Norwegian, which he had learned years ago in his native land. "Vell," he said, "Ain't you lady folks going into town?"

Mother Olson looked up from her dishpan, Nora turned from the window and Ellen came out of the pantry. There was a little silence and then mother spoke first. "Why, no, Eric, we haven't any money."

Eric dried his hands on his towel. It was then that he gave them the money. He unsnapped his dark, cloth pocketbook. "Here," he said, "is a dollar for each of you. You can go to town on that."

"Oh goodie!" Ellen cried, and her eyes danced. Now she could buy something really new. "Thanks a lot, Papa."

"Oh yes, thanks, Pa," Nora said. "Say, do you know where Bob is?"

"No," Eric replied as he sat down to the table, "I don't know where he is." The older man reflected a bit on

his new son-in-law. It was too bad that a young fellow couldn't find work. It was so different when he was young. Bob was a good worker, too.

Nora left to go to her own rooms. "I'll be ready soon, Mother," she called back.

"Don't you want to go with us?" Mother Olson asked as she poured herself a cup of coffee and sat down to the table.

"No, guess not," Eric answered.

In no time the housework was finished and everyone was ready but Bob still had not appeared. The three women finally went off to town without him.

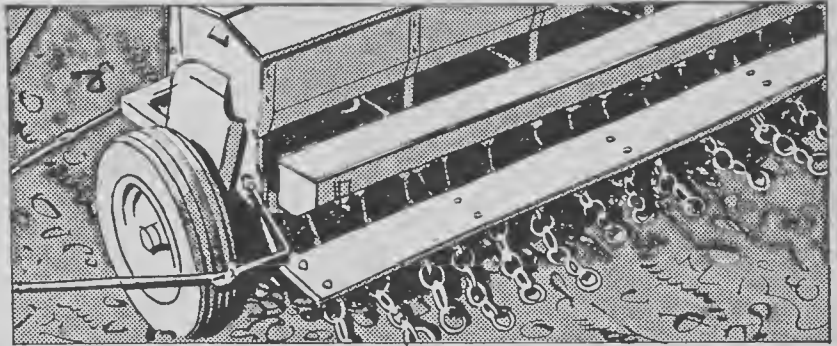
Outside by the door Eric watched his '27 Pontiac as it headed east toward Sioux Falls.

Once more he unsnapped his pocketbook. One side held a precious

five dollar bill while the other side was empty. Would five dollars last until the next cream cheque? He was glad though that the ladies could go. They should have a change from this drab existence. Women always paid more attention to the gifts and ornaments at Christmas. The trip would satisfy their yearnings for the sights, sounds and smell of the Yuletide.

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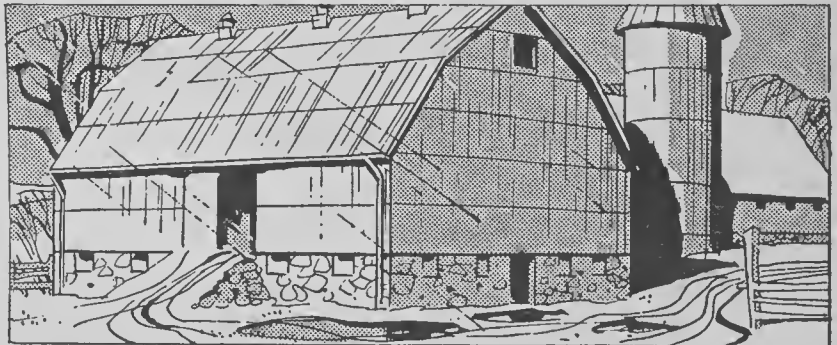
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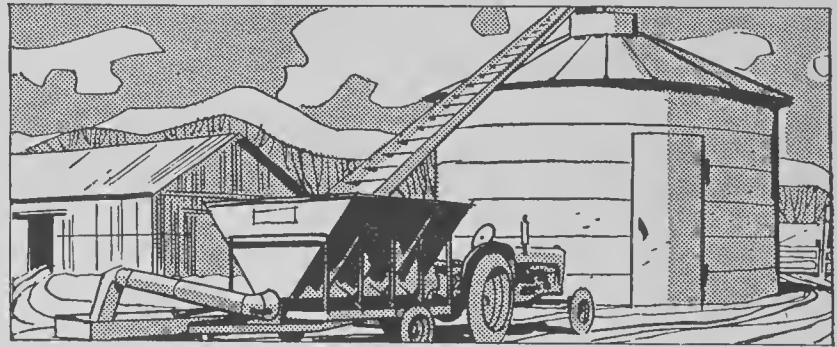
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HOWEVER, doubt began to enter his mind as dusk crept over the quiet farm land and nestled about the old farm buildings. Eric thought of Christmas more and more. In the vestibule he took his lantern down from its hook and remembered how when the girls were small they were always out to greet him on this night of nights. "Hurry, Papa," one would say. "Mom's got supper all ready."

Another would hug his leg with her chubby little arms. "Papa, aren't you ever coming in? The presents are stacked so high under the tree that I told Mama that they are taller than me."

Because of heavy morning chores, it had always been the family tradition to open the gifts on Christmas Eve, but tonight there was no need to hurry. The women were home now, and packing groceries into the cupboard.

"Hi, Papa," Ellen greeted him cheerfully. "Are you ready to start milking?" When only a child Ellen had been her daddy's girl, and now that she was older it was she who helped Eric with the chores.

Tonight her eyes were starry and her thoughts were far away. She had only bought a new piece of sheet music with her money, having given the rest to her mother for groceries. She had wondered if she shouldn't have given it all for the necessities.

"Yeah," Eric said. "I'm just about ready to start milking." He struck a match on the iron of the stove and lit the wick of the lantern. His gift money had gone for groceries he knew.

Mother Olson had never once considered buying herself something with her dollar. Instead, she absorbed the sounds of hurrying people on the streets and the songs of carolers. She marvelled at the decorations as she entered the Shriver and Johnson store with the girls.

In the department store the women had passed counters of fresh linen and new materials. "I'd love to have a new dress made out of soft silk and lace some day, and go to a great ball," Ellen had said dreamily.

"Well," Nora said laughing, "I had my beautiful dress last June. Now I'm buying flannel. Come on, Mom, let's see what they have." They looked at it, felt it and compared it with prices in the mail order catalogue. Then Mother Olson had given her daughter a portion of her dollar to pay for a few yards.

And all of this Eric half guessed or imagined as he soaked up a little more warmth from the stove. It was pretty bad, he told himself, when a man could only give his wife and daughters a dollar and then they had to spend even that for food.

Anna smiled over at him, "Christmas was all over Sioux Falls today," she said in that warm way she had of speaking. "Thanks so much, Eric, for the trip."

The chimney was let down on the lantern and Eric lifted it off the high oven of the big old stove. "Yeah," he answered, "that was all right." He opened the door, "Vell, you ladies had the trip anyway."

Ellen dressed for the outdoors and went out to milk. The mother, left alone in the kitchen stood for a long

while looking into the vast darkness of the night. A single light met her gaze. Only the prairie can catch the gleam of a neighbor's kerosene lamp, carry it over the miles and give it to another human eye. Anna Olson thought of the light of so many centuries ago, the light of the star which had shone over the hills of Bethlehem. The coming of the Christ Child had been proclaimed by that light. Mother Olson turned from the window and remembered that she should set the table. The date, December 25, on the large calendar met her eye. Slowly she looked around her kitchen. Potatoes and carrots boiled on the black lids of the stove, and the cupboard door was wide open, revealing the lack of stored-away goodies. There was nothing, nothing here to relate to the date on the calendar. Surely, surely, there should be more than this. Suddenly, she placed the vegetables on the back of the stove and went out into the vestibule. She took the second lantern from its hook and lit it.

Outside in the coal shed the lantern's light flickered over the sacks of fuel. Coal was bought in sacks now, not by the ton, and the big, black hunks were as precious as gold. But Mother Olson did not hesitate. She put down her lantern, grabbed a dirty husking mitten and filled the pail.

From the kitchen she went into the living room. It was cold in there and almost dark. Anna cleaned the ashes out of the burner. She struck a match to paper under dry cobs and opened the damper. Soon she could throw in small pieces of coal.

AFTER supper the room was cozy and warm. The kerosene lamps had been filled and their chimneys washed until they shone. One stood on the piano and one on the table. Both cast a soft light on the small Christmas tree with its silver tinsel and wax candles. At the foot of the tree lay the little lamb with a broken leg and a miniature house—ornaments the girls had kept since childhood.

Eric sat by the stove with his bald head bent over the Norwegian paper. Would it all have been different had his parents stayed in Norway? Eric wondered. He glanced over at his daughter, Ellen, who sat writing a letter to a sister. His wife stood, bent over the piano stool looking for Christmas carols. No, Eric thought, no free country ever holds a man back. Either he provides for his family or does not. Eric's deep blue eyes were not seeing the print of his newspaper. Would it be like this in the spring? Would he go dejected and beaten into the fields



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only to have the soil fail to respond to his care again? That was exactly what he feared. He looked over at Anna once more. She sat before the piano, reading aloud the words to "Oh Little Town of Bethlehem." Just then Nora and Bob knocked on the door and were admitted with the usual shouts of "Come in."

"Well, Ma," Bob ejaculated, "you're really getting reckless. You're living in two rooms tonight."

"You know, Mom," Nora exclaimed, "Bob hitchhiked all the way to town today."

"Oh no!" her mother echoed, "and to think we rode."

Eric looked up from his paper. "Vell, the walking certainly wouldn't be crowded," he surmised.

"Come on and sing, Bob," urged Mother Olson. "You've still got lots of energy." She touched the keys and began to play, "Oh Little Town of Bethlehem." "Come on everybody," she invited.

Eventually they all drifted around the piano with Eric sitting beside his wife and the younger people standing beside them. Carol after carol they sang, interrupted only by Eric replenishing the stove with more coal. They ended with the quiet beautiful notes of "Silent Night, Holy Night." Then Eric sat once more over by the stove, the girls found chairs by the table, while their mother still sat on the piano stool. Bob slipped into his own apartment. The others sat silently looking at the little tree.

It was Mother Olson who spoke first. "We have so much for which to thank God," she said.

"Yes," Ellen said softly, "Christmas is truly only in the heart."

Nora and Eric gave consent by their silence. The glory of Christmas was sufficient. It lingered in the echoes of "Silent Night," in the little lamb with his broken leg, in the hearts of those who sat listening to the coal shuffle down into the grates. The old carols were the same, just as the reading of the Scripture and the repeating of the Lord's prayer would be the same. The absence of material wealth was not profound or even missed as they had felt it might be.

PERHAPS that was why no one spoke or moved for a few moments after Bob came in whistling "Jingle Bells," and carrying Christmas boxes under his arm. "Well, come on everybody," he invited, "come on and get your Christmas gifts!"

Ellen came first, wonderingly touching the gifts and reading the names. "Let's open them one by one and make them last longer," she cried.

"Why, Bob!" Mother Olson exclaimed, as she left the piano stool to join the young people around the tree, "how could you ever buy gifts?"

"He took the three dollars he earned last week when he and Pa put hay in the barn, hitchhiked into town and bought them," Nora explained. She was very proud of her young husband.

No one heard Eric as he clicked his tongue against the roof of his mouth, once or twice. They all had to eat between now and next harvest. How soon would Bob see three dollars again? Then suddenly Eric took the pipe from his mouth and leaned forward. A thought had come to him.



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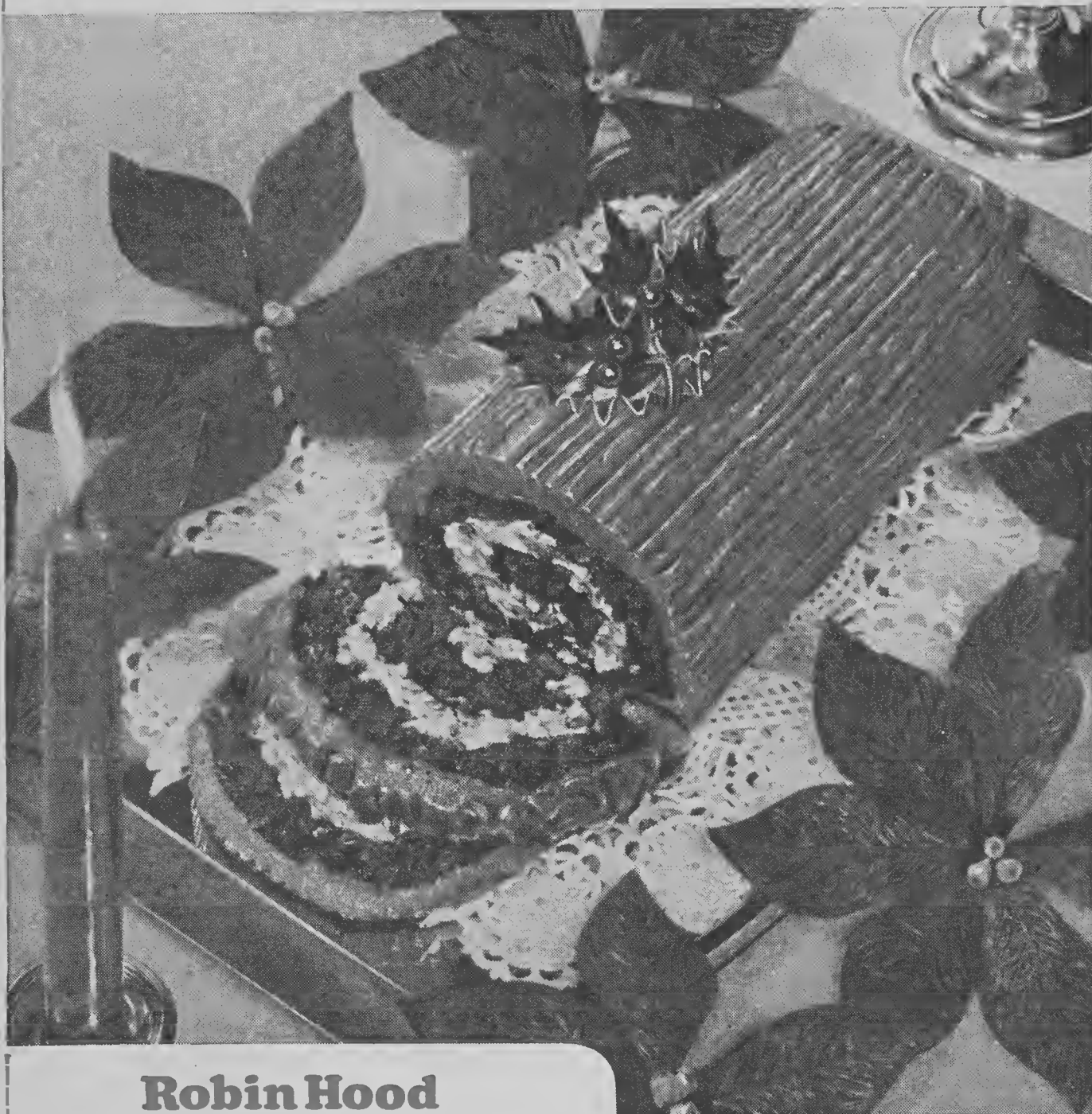
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| 1 cup plus 2 tablespoons sifted Robin Hood Flour | 3 eggs |
| 2 teaspoons baking powder | 1 cup plus 2 tablespoons sugar |
| ¼ teaspoon salt | 1½ teaspoons vanilla |
| ½ cup milk | 1½ tablespoons butter |
| | 6 tablespoons cocoa |

ICING:

- | | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| ¼ cup soft butter | ½ teaspoon vanilla |
| 2 cups icing sugar sifted with 2 tablespoons cocoa | 3 tablespoons strong cold coffee |

Sift flour with baking powder, salt and cocoa. Heat milk.

Beat eggs (3-4 min.) until fluffy and lemon-coloured. Gradually add sugar, continuing to beat until light. Add vanilla.

Sift flour into egg and sugar mixture. FOLD: do not stir or beat.

To hot milk, add butter and stir. Pour into first mixture and fold in quickly until blended.

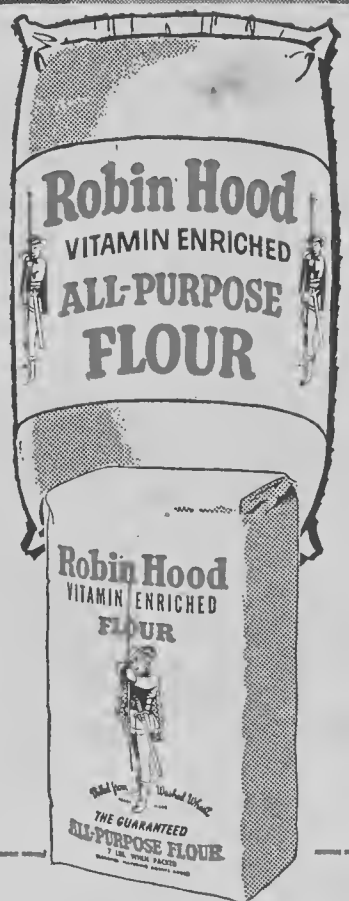
Grease a 14" x 10" x ¾" pan. Line bottom with waxed paper to within

½" of edge. Grease again and lightly flour. Turn batter into pan, spreading evenly.

Bake at 400°F. — 12-15 minutes.

When baked, quickly cut off crisp edges of cake. Turn out on waxed paper covered with sifted icing sugar. Roll up and cool. Unroll and spread with sweetened and flavoured whipped cream; roll up and chill.

Frost and run point of knife lengthwise in frosting to simulate bark. Decorate with holly.



Robin Hood Flour comes in fine quality cotton bags — 100 lb., 50 lb., and 25 lb. sizes. Paper label soaks off — no ink to wash out. Also in handy 10 lb., 7 lb., 5 lb. and 2 lb. packages.

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Bob would never have spent his only wages had he not known that he would receive help if it were needed. Eric knew from whence the help would come. His wife and Ellen, they knew no fears or uncertainties. He must not doubt himself or the Lord. His family had faith in him and unconsciously, by one act, Bob had brought this home. Eric leaned back and put the pipe in his mouth, and out of its bowl the smoke curled through the air. In its haze Eric could see black, open soil ready for planting. Come spring he could reckon his seed grain and sharpen his plow shares with hope once again.

At the tree Nora was handing her mother a gift and saying, "Come on, Mom, you open yours first."

Mother Olson looked down at the neat square package. "Looks like it might be a box of stationery," she mused.

"Come on, Mother," Ellen cried impatiently, "the rest of us are dying to see what you've got."

"Mom hasn't changed," Nora sighed. "Remember, Ellen, how she used to count every stamp and string before she would let us girls open boxes when we were little?"

"Just champing the bit, like your horses out there, huh, Eric?" Bob laughed.

"Why!" Mother Olson exclaimed, "I've got two new towels and wash cloths." She looked over at her young son-in-law. "Thank you, Bob, so much," she said.

"Now, Papa, you can open yours," Ellen suggested.

Eric roused himself from his thoughts of spring and next year's crops. Why, he had forgotten the gift.

AFTER it was over the presents lay on the table, with the tissue paper and string contributing a further touch of Christmas. Mother Olson looked at the tree again. "It is time to light the candles," she said softly. As was the custom, she brought in a pail of water and set it by the tree. "We delegate you to watch it, Ellen," she said.

They all looked on in silence as she touched a match to each tiny candle. The Yuletide season was here. Winter might be cold and spring a long time coming, but this—this was Christmas.

Then quietly Mother Olson reached for her worn Bible on the piano. She found Chapter II of St. Luke. Before beginning to read she glanced up at her family. Nora and Bob were holding hands by the table. Ellen was watching the tree, her young profile beautiful against the evergreen. Eric had taken the pipe from his mouth and was leaning forward in his chair. He had heard this message every year, beginning long ago in another land and repeated in another language. The message of Christmas was indeed the universal message of hope.

Mother Olson turned to the passage which the girls had heard her read so many times. The candles flickered about the pine needles and there was quiet cosiness as she read once again, "And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the Shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us."

Home and Family



[Luoma photo]

The Wonder of Christmas

by GLENORA PEARCE

THE happiest event of the year ought to be Christmas. There is an over-all and genuine spirit of benevolence, as people everywhere turn their thoughts to others. The season blends the Yuletide customs of many countries with warm religious rejoicing.

One of the traditions, the arrival of Santa Claus, is said to have originated in Holland. It was there that the joyous custom began of having someone dress up as St. Nicholas, the patron saint of children, and of having this jolly fellow distribute toys and sweets to the young. Norwegians provided Santa Claus with prancing reindeer, and the imagination of American children first envisaged him in a red suit.

St. Francis of Assisi, we are told, is responsible for writing simple words to the chants of the church. This innovation gave the common people the opportunity to join in the singing for the first time. This led to the development of Christmas caroling.

Martin Luther supposedly started the custom of a Christmas tree. Walking home one clear, starlit Christmas Eve, he was struck by the

beauty of the stars and moon, shining on tall evergreens. Deciding to share this spectacle with his loved ones, he cut a big fir and presented it, glittering with real candles, to his family.

Candles glowing in the windows of a home at Christmastime have been used for centuries as a symbol that the Christ Child is welcome. The simple-hearted early Christians thought the Holy Babe might be wandering through the streets of the world on Christmas Eve.

In Scandinavian countries there is a quaint Christmas custom of placing everybody's wooden shoes in a row outside the door or before the hearth on Christmas Eve. People in other lands have substituted stockings for shoes.

Christmas is traditionally a time of giving, not merely of gifts, but the giving of kindly thoughts, love and joy to others. Celebrating Christmas in this spirit will surely mean "On earth peace, good will toward men."

Last Christmas at Home



Sint Nicholaas arrives from Spain.

THE afternoon was dreary and a fine rain was falling, but nobody in Holland had time to think about the weather. For it was December 5, and every family was expecting an evening visit from Sint Nicholaas.

In a small cottage in the village of Middelstum a busy mother wondered, as she completed her preparations, whether this was the last time Sint Nicholaas would visit her children. Next year they would be in Canada. She knew so little of the customs in that far-off land. Would he come to see them there?

Her youngest boy and girl, playing in a corner of the room, jumped up suddenly as they heard excited voices in the little porch. "Mem, Mem," they shouted, "here they are at last." The five older children had returned from school, and they were taking off their wooden shoes before entering the house.

As they came inside, the small room seemed to be full of children. They crowded around their mem, who smiled at them and said, "You need not change into your old clothes today, for you must look your best when Sint Nicholaas arrives."

Ten-year-old Heika set out their simple meal of bread and butter, cheese, and eggs, but the excited children could not eat. They had heard over the radio that Sint Nicholaas had arrived in a big ship from Spain. They knew that thousands of people in Amsterdam had watched him ride his white horse through the streets, and

had seen Zwarte Piet, his black helper, running by his side.

The bright blue eyes of the youngest child, a four-year-old, grew bigger and rounder as she listened to the chatter. Her small face was flushed, her short braids stuck out, like horns, on either side of her smooth head. The other children smiled as they watched her, for she was their darling little sister, Kleine Zus.

When the supper dishes were cleared away, Mem covered the table with her best white cloth and, with much ceremony, brought out the Banket-letter. This was a big pastry roll shaped like a large "J," the first

This was the way it was celebrated in Holland; next year, what would they be doing?

by **DORIS MEEK**

letter of the father's surname. Through round holes in the pastry, the children could see that it was filled with their favorite mixture of ground almonds, eggs, and butter. When Heika had spread a clean cloth on the floor, Mem said, "Now we'll sing the Sint Nicholaas songs."

THE singing ceased abruptly when a loud knocking was heard outside. Mem swung open the upper half of the door, and the children stood as if transfixed, their mouths half open, their eyes popping from their heads. For there he was—Sint Nicholaas! They could see his long white beard, and the red bishop's hat upon his head.

Mem opened the lower door, and Sint Nicholaas entered with great dignity. His red robes swept the floor; they were trimmed with glittering gold. In one hand he held a long staff, in the other was a book. He was fol-

and Heika helps to look after the little ones. But what is this about the twins?"

He beckoned to the little rascals, who approached him slowly and reluctantly. They were dressed alike in striped sweaters, short knee-pants, and long gray stockings over which, like all the other children, they had pulled short thick socks which took the place of slippers.

"I am told that you tease your teacher," said Sint Nicholaas, looking sternly at them. "You change your seats in school, so that he doesn't know whether he is speaking to Gerrit or to Klaas. You mustn't do this again, or I shall have to beat you with my rod."

The twins hung their blond curly heads, sniffed audibly, and wiped their tears with grimy little fists. They turned sharply as they heard scuffling behind them. Zwarte Piet had seized one of the little children, and was pretending to stuff them into his big sack. "Nee, nee," screamed Kleine Zus, and flung her arms around her little brother. Everyone laughed, and Sint Nicholaas, bending over the tiny girl, kissed her and said, "Stay good and happy always, Kleine Zus."

He then signalled to Zwarte Piet, who dived deep into his sack, and brought out dozens of little cookies the size of quarters. He threw them on the clean cloth on the floor, as though he was scattering grain for chickens. The children shouted, "Pepernoten!" and rushed to pick them up. When they turned around, they found that Sint Nicholaas and Zwarte Piet had quietly disappeared.

"Sint Nicholaas is coming back when you are fast asleep, so we must get ready for him," said Mem, hanging out seven stockings on the clothesline above the stove.

THE children scampered to the porch and each brought back a wooden shoe. They stuffed the shoes with hay, added a carrot, and placed them by the stove. "Sint Nicholaas will be glad," said Kleine Zus, "to find this food for his white horse."

There was a sudden knocking on the door which slowly opened, then a hand pushed a basket full of parcels into the room. "Dank U Sint Nicholaas," the children cried. Only Mem saw, briefly against the window-pane, the smiling face of the farmer for whom Hait worked, and that of his kindly wife.

"We must give presents too," said Mem, and she brought out three little baskets gaily trimmed with red and green paper. Two of them were filled with fruit and cookies, and were for old sick people who lived alone.

William and Sieber took the baskets to the houses, pushed them around the doors, and waited until they heard the



Each child lit a candle and spoke part of the story of the Nativity.

lowed by Zwarte Piet who wore a bright green suit with baggy trousers. Red ribbon streamers dangled from his round green hat. His face and hands were black, his teeth looked very white as he smiled at Kleine Zus, and placed his heavy sack upon the floor.

Mem led them to the table, and they sampled her Banket-letter. "Excellent," said Sint Nicholaas, and then turned toward the silent children. He opened his book and glanced down the page. "I see you have good children living in this house," he said to Mem and Hait. "William and Sieber work hard in the vegetable garden,



Dutch children cheer the good Sint.

quavering voices say, "Dank U Sint Nicholaas." Hait and the twins took the other basket containing handkerchiefs and cigarettes, and left it in the kitchen at the farm.

NEXT morning, early, but long after Hait had gone to milk the cows, Mem heard pattering footsteps in the attic, and soon the small room echoed with shouts of joy, "Mem, Sint Nicholaas did come back again!" The stockings bulged with apples, oranges, and chocolate candies wrapped in shiny paper; to each labelled wooden shoe a big parcel was tied, and the fodder was gone.

William and Sieber held up their new dark-blue skating outfits, long baggy trousers gathered at the ankles, sweaters trimmed with scarlet, and blue woollen caps to match, with scarlet pompoms. One of the little boys pushed a small truck around the room, whilst the twins admired the first skates they had ever owned.

Kleine Zus had two small dolls. "Mem and Hait," she chanted, for the dolls were dressed in the costumes that the people of Friesland, where her parents were born, wore long ago.

Heika was sitting quietly on a chair, a cardboard box upon her knee. Her happiness was too great for words. Inside the box was a pair of white shoes and socks to be worn with the white dress that Mem's clever hands had made. Now she would be dressed like the other girls when she sang in the children's Christmas choir.

Christmas was not far away, and Mem said that everything must be bright and shining for the Holy Day. During the warm weather she had scrubbed the yellow bricks on the outside of the house, she had painted the door and the window frames bright green, and trimmed them with white. The rain had washed the bright red tiles on the steep roof. So now it was to the inside of the house that she turned her attention. She brushed the walls, and polished the windows until they sparkled. She washed her lace-edged curtains and scrubbed the floors. She rubbed the iron cook stove until her broad, pleasant face was reflected in its shiny blackness.

"There is but one thing lacking," she said to herself, "if we wish to move to Canada next year we cannot afford to buy a Christmas tree."

And then a miracle happened. On Christmas Eve a neighbor and his wife brought them theirs. "Our children are grown up," they said.

Mem placed the tree on a small table by the wall and, though the baubles were fragile as bubbles, she allowed each child to tie one to a branch. "Ah, wonderful," the children cried, "now let's turn on the lights."

"Nee," said Mem, "we'll save that for tomorrow, which is the Holy Day."

CHRISTMAS morning dawned bright and clear. Wearing their best clothes and leather shoes, the family set out happily for church. They listened to the gay Christmas bells, and called out, "Zalig Krismis, blessed Christmas," to their friends.

They parted at the door, for the men sat on one side of the church, and the women on the other. At first the children could only gaze at the huge Christmas tree which gleamed and glowed before their fascinated eyes. As the Dominee, wearing a black robe and carrying his black cap, mounted the pulpit steps, the people rose to sing a Christmas hymn. They prayed, then the members of the choir grouped themselves around the Christmas tree. At the conclusion of the anthem, the Dominee told the Christmas story in such simple language that even Kleine Zus could understand most of what he said.

The children enjoyed their dinner of roast beef, carrots, beans, potatoes, and a cherry pudding, for they seldom tasted meat more than once a week.

Twilight at last, and time to light up the little tree. How it shone and sparkled against the gray background of the wall! The family sat around the table and, in front of each child was a candle in a candlestick made from half a potato wrapped in shiny paper, or perhaps a tiny bottle. After Hait had prayed he said, "Jesus Christ is the light of the world!" Then each child in turn solemnly lit a candle, carried it to the Christmas tree, and recited part of the story of the Nativity as related in the Gospel of Saint Luke. This year, for the first time, Kleine Zus was old enough to say one verse.

They ate their supper by candlelight, and then sat around the tree listening to Mem's stories and singing Christmas hymns.

THE celebrations continued for another day—the children's party day. At four o'clock the parents sat on one side of the church waiting for the young ones to appear. The short procession entered, led by the girls' choir dressed in white. Each child carried a lighted candle which, after yesterday's ceremony had been repeated, was placed on a ledge.

A Christmas story followed, and a few words from the Dominee. Then the girls' choir sang, standing around the Christmas tree.

After Mem had put her tired children to bed, she said quietly to Hait, "Our last Christmas in Holland has come and gone. I pray that, in Canada, our children will be as happy and contented on the Holy Day." ✓



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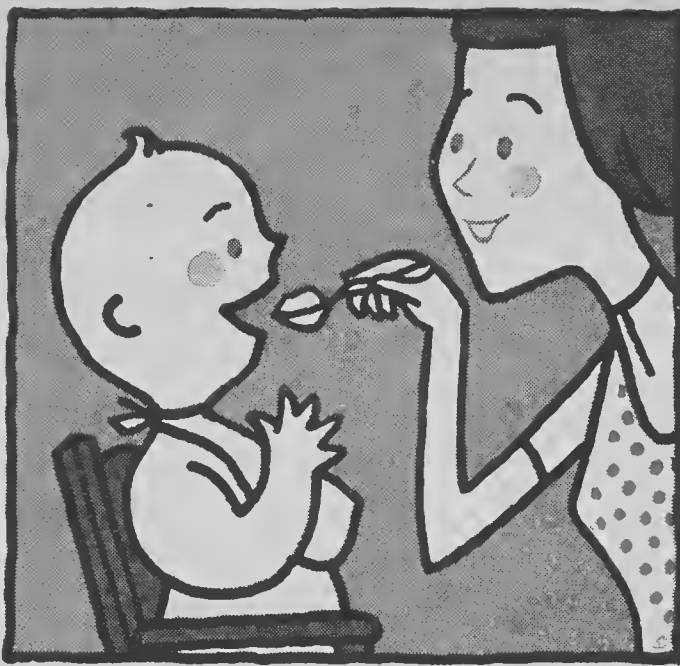
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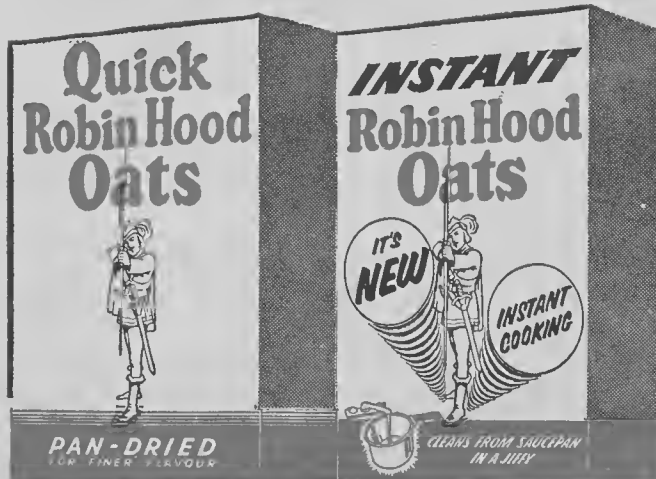
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'Mid Flashbulbs And Fumbled Film

by DOREEN REID

BE it ever so overexposed, there is no snapshot quite like the one you took last Christmas of the old farmstead, shrouded in a fresh fall of snow.

In fact, the result was so encouraging you laid in a supply of flashbulbs and film earlier in the year, with intentions of taking a series of scenes when the brothers and sisters and their families converged on the home place for Christmas dinner.

First picture — the arrival. The smallest children so bundled in coats and sweaters that they cannot walk and have to be carried into the house to meet Grandpa.

Second snap—a flash picture of happy faces at the dinner table, ogling the monstrous turkey that Grandpa has been protecting all autumn for just this occasion.

Now, a picture of the youngsters unwrapping their gifts from Grandpa and Grandma, and a special shot of the newest baby, his eyes wide and wondering at the sight of Christmas tree sparkle.

Later, when the young cousins are playing outside, head over heels in snowdrifts and loving it, snap a picture of their antics.

Then a picture of the groups as they leave, laden with half-wrapped gifts that trail ribbon.

The few tricks listed below might come in handy for improving this year's Christmas "take."

Lighting directed at the wall behind the subject, much like the soft lighting effect given by a broad bank of lights in a portrait studio, is particularly flattering for portraits of elderly people.

When photographing something that has its own light . . . a glowing fireplace, a lighted Christmas tree . . . the following procedure might be adopted: Place the camera on a table or tripod for steadiness, and set to "time" or "bulb." Check the flash apparatus for proper attachment, and adjust lens according to the rulebook which accompanied your camera on purchase. Ready? Presto — the very short time exposure that takes place the moment the lens opens will allow this natural light to show.

When taking snow scenes, either orthochromatic or panchromatic film can be used. A medium yellow filter over the lens will help bring out the natural contrast of highlights and shadows. This filter will also darken the blue sky a bit and bring out the clouds and snow spray. If evergreens surround the subject, a green filter will help both the foliage and the snow and sky.

On a day when the sun is not shining directly, a red filter will make the most of the contrast in a snow scene.

Color film is especially effective when winter scenes are to be photographed. Further interest can be added to the picture by having the subject wear a bit of red, yellow or orange, to accent the soft bluish shadows of the snow.

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For Each Member of the Family . . .

The Country Guide's editorial staff provides inspiring and practical suggestions to help you succeed as well as for better living.

"Ring out the Old Ring in the New" Buffet Style

WHETHER planned for a New Year's Eve party or for some other important occasion during the winter season, a buffet supper can be a smashing success. In fact, it can't fail when the setting is a home where genuine hospitality prevails, where the hostess graciously enjoys the party with her guests, and where the supper table is well appointed. Guests are fond of a buffet service, because they love to help themselves to their favorite foods and to go back again and again for more. There is a happy air of informality when everyone is eating to their heart's content, and conversing with some of their very best friends.

There are no set rules for the kind of food to be served when entertaining at a buffet supper. The meal may consist of a main course, a dessert and a beverage. Sometimes it may be on the "do-it-yourself" plan, with a variety of breads, biscuits and sandwich fillings available, from which the guests can make a selection. It might be just a beverage served with snacks, such as potato chips, crackers and shrimps.

In planning a buffet meal it might be well to keep these points in mind. The main preparations should be made sufficiently far in advance so that last minute work is cut to a minimum. Choose foods that are easy to serve and simple to eat. A fork or spoon is all that should be required for each course. The various dishes should be placed on the buffet table in such a way that reaching for one food over another is avoided, and that cold and jellied dishes will not be warmed by hot ones.

THE buffet table may be placed in the center of the room, or, if the space is limited, it is better to set it back against one wall. In either case, it should be located so that it is easily accessible both to the guests and to the hostess when she is going back and forth to the kitchen. In order that the guests will have a place to discard one plate before acquiring the next, a clear surface, such as a card table or

tea wagon, should be available near the door leading to the kitchen. Men are always much happier if they do not have to hold their plates while they are eating. It is, therefore, a good idea to have small tables available for those who want to use them.

Attractive table decorations, and interesting garnishes for the food, will do much to add to the success of your buffet party. For a centerpiece, try using large and small rose bowls filled with brightly colored Christmas tree balls, with gay string-type confetti overflowing festively onto the table. Two large white candles on either side of this arrangement would provide

1958	January	1958
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12	by JULIA MANN	18
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flickering lights to be reflected in shimmering color on the bright Christmas tree balls. One novel garnish for a plum pudding consists of inserting cubes of lump sugar over the top of the pudding. Just before serving, soak the cubes in lemon extract and then light. Your party guests will be pleasantly surprised as a flaming pudding is set before them.

Snowman Punch (20 servings)

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| 5 c. water | 1 can frozen concentrate for lemonade |
| 3 c. sugar | 1 can frozen concentrated orange juice |
| 12 whole cloves | |
| 2 two-inch cinnamon sticks | |
| 3 c. cranberry juice | |

In a small saucepan, bring water, sugar, cloves and cinnamon sticks to boil, stirring until the sugar dissolves. Reduce the heat. Simmer 5 minutes and remove the spices.

When ready to serve, pour the cranberry juice, frozen lemonade, frozen orange juice, and spiced syrup over ice cubes in a punch bowl. Stir to blend.

Make your punch bowl festive with orange slices and ice wreaths. To make

these, freeze water and red and green maraschino cherries in small ring molds. Unmold and float on top of the punch.

Frozen Almond Cream

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| 1 c. sugar | 1/3 c. milk |
| 2 1/2 T. flour | 2 c. heavy cream |
| 2 eggs | 1 tsp. almond extract |
| 1 tsp. vanilla extract | 1/2 c. blanched, slivered almonds |
| 1/4 c. water | 1/2 c. mixed green and red candied cherries |
| 3/4 c. light corn syrup | |
| 1 tsp. butter | |

Mix sugar and flour together in a saucepan. Beat eggs slightly in a mixing bowl, and stir in vanilla extract, water and corn syrup. Add to sugar mixture and cook over a medium heat, stirring constantly, until mixture comes to a boil. At this point, reduce the heat and cook slowly for 5 more minutes. Add butter and stir until melted. Cool.

Now add milk, cream and almond extract. Pour into 2 refrigerator trays. Set refrigerator at coldest point and freeze to mushy stage. Then beat in almonds and chopped cherries. Freeze again, this time to the consistency of ice cream, which takes about 2 hours.

If you own a freezer, almond cream can be transferred to individual molds after nuts and cherries are added, then frozen until firm.

Egg and Sardine Dip (Yield 1 1/4 cups)

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 3 eggs, hard cooked | 2 tsp. lemon juice |
| 1 can sardines | 1 tsp. finely grated onion |
| 5 T. boiled salad dressing | 1/8 tsp. salt |

Separate the hard cooked egg yolks from the egg whites. Press the yolks through a fine sieve and chop the whites finely. Thoroughly mash the sardines. Combine all ingredients. Chill thoroughly.

Peanut Butter Dip (Yield 1 1/2 cups)

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 c. homogenized peanut butter | 1/4 c. boiled salad dressing |
| 1/4 c. chopped peanuts | 1/2 c. chopped mustard pickle |
| 2 T. chili sauce | |

Combine the ingredients and blend thoroughly. If desired, place dip in a bowl and garnish with whole pieces of mustard pickle.



There's fascinating flavor in this
Cardamom-seed
COFFEE
CAKE

If you're not already acquainted with cardamom seeds, do try them in this distinctive coffee cake! It's a tender delicious sweet bread with an exciting gourmet touch. And it's easy to make when the yeast is Fleischmann's Active Dry. If you bake at home, discover new and intriguing flavor by baking this unusual coffee cake soon!

CARDAMOM SEED COFFEE CAKE

1. Remove husks from **6 cardamom seeds** and crush seeds thoroughly. Scald **½ cup milk**. Stir in **½ cup granulated sugar**, **1 teaspoon salt**, **⅓ cup butter or margarine**. Cool to lukewarm.
2. Meantime, measure into large bowl **½ cup lukewarm water**. Stir in **1 teaspoon granulated sugar**. Sprinkle with contents of **1 envelope Fleischmann's Active Dry Yeast**. Let stand 10 minutes, THEN stir well. Stir in crushed cardamom seeds and lukewarm milk mixture. Beat together **2 eggs**, **1 egg yolk** and stir into yeast mixture.

Stir in **2 cups once-sifted all-purpose flour** and beat until smooth. Mix in **½ cup chopped pecans**. Work in an additional **2 cups (about) once-sifted all-purpose flour**.

3. Turn out on floured board; knead until smooth and elastic. Place in greased bowl. Grease top. Cover. Let rise in warm place, free from draft, until doubled in bulk—about 1½ hours.
4. Punch down dough and turn out on lightly-floured board. Halve dough. Shape each half into a rope about 36 inches long. Let rest 5 minutes. Brush with melted butter or margarine. Beginning at centre of an 8-inch round layer cake pan, loosely coil one rope round and round in pan. Coil second rope of dough in another pan. Sprinkle with **granulated sugar**. Cover. Let rise until doubled in bulk—about 45 minutes. Bake in moderate oven, 350°, about 30 minutes. While warm, top with the following frosting and sprinkle with chopped pecans. Beat 1 egg white until stiff, but not dry; stir in 1 teaspoon vanilla and sufficient icing sugar to make a frosting of spreading consistency. Yield: 2 cakes.

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The Clubwoman

★ “Madam Chairman”

(No. 3 in a series)

THE chair has recognized your wish to make a statement to the meeting, and all eyes turn to observe this new development. What's wrong? . . . forget what you were going to say?

Sometimes recognition affects people the opposite way. Starting to speak is no hardship; their problem is not knowing when to stop. However, this is a situation a good chairman should be able to cut short tactfully, so we'll leave the garrulous one to her fate and go on to help the nervous speaker.

You're on your feet! Fine, that's quite an achievement in itself. Now draw a deep breath, quietly, and exhale slowly, looking about the room as you do so. Not only does this calm a fluttering stomach, but the tiny silence arrests the attention of any who weren't listening.

You have something to say? All right, say it, as briefly as possible, then sit down gracefully.

Did everyone in the group hear distinctly the words you spoke? They will have if the remarks were addressed to the person farthest away in the room. We are reminded of a recent embarrassment experienced by a women's group during presentation of their brief to a Royal Commission. Fortunately, the Commission members had been supplied with typewritten copies of the report, because the member assigned to read it out to them mumbled so self-consciously that her words were not audible to even the rest of her group, seated just a few feet away.

If you have to make a statement, speak out, and go about it slowly, attempting all the while to talk within the lower ranges of your voice. Deep tones carry better than does a high-pitched clatter of words.

WHAT about the hands? If you speak from the audience, one hand can rest lightly on the back of the chair in front of you, while the other is used in gestures. If you address the group from a platform, and are quite nervous about it, rest a hand on the speaker's lectern, and gesticulate a little with the other. Or, cup one in the other, waist-high, separating them frequently in gestures.

What type of gestures could be used? There are four simple actions frequently resorted to by speakers to draw and hold audience attention:

Palms up and out—asks “What can we do?”

Palms down and out—emphasizes “Don't let it happen!”

Finger pointed—asks “What are you going to do?”

Hand held vertically—denotes decisiveness, “I tell you we'll have to help!”

As you get more experience in standing up before a meeting, gestures will come easier until soon they come naturally.

If notes are required when making a statement, place them on the lectern if possible, glancing at them only enough to carry on smoothly. Should no lectern be handy, simply hold the notes quietly in one hand. Any movement of the paper will detract the group's attention from your remarks.

Try not to rock back and forth on your heels while talking. That also detracts from the effectiveness of a speech. To stand still comfortably, place one foot with its heel near the instep of the other foot. Models use this stance when required to pose for long periods of time, and relax by shifting their weight from the back-most heel to the ball of the foremost foot. If you wish to move about a little, try to confine the wandering to a V. Step out and back, then out the other way and back. Gestures work in very effectively with this footwork pattern.

That's all there is to making a statement at a meeting. Know what you are going to say, stand easily and act poised. The audience will hear you attentively.—R.G. V

Transformation

My children are normal in every respect,

*(At least, during most of the year.)
They're naughty and noisy and often neglect*

To heed my instructions, I fear.

Just before Christmas, for obvious reasons,

*With their wings and halos in place.
They shyly await the best-loved of seasons*

With reserve and well-behaved grace.

*I've read the story of angels appearing
So, I lay my doubt on the shelf;
For now, I regard the outlook as cheering,*

With history repeating itself.

—REGINALD V. HOLMES

Strength

Do not pray for easy lives. Pray to be stronger men. Do not pray for tasks equal to your powers. Pray for powers equal to your tasks. Then the doing of your work shall be no miracle. But you shall be a miracle. Every day you shall wonder at yourself, at the richness of life which has come to you by the grace of God.

—PHILLIPS BROOKS.



The Countrywoman



IT was an inspiration to watch some 400 rural Canadian women, at the Federated Women's Institute Convention, review 60 years of achievement and from it gain encouragement and zeal for a progressive future. They were community leaders with a sincere interest and an honest desire to make a worthwhile contribution to the development of their country.

The institute members were not just interested in the materialistic things of life, but in the over-all welfare of their home and community. A recommendation that the F.W.I.C. request representation on the Canada Council substantiates this.

The F.W.I.C. consider cultural activities a way of life. These include adult education, music, drama, UNESCO, art, handicraft, historical



Mrs. H. Summers, vice-pres. A.C.W.W., admires hand-carved wooden figure from handicraft display. With her are Mrs. F. Robinson, Mrs. W. Rayson, Quebec W.I.

research and literature in their activities. To measure the influence and impact of these on the rural life of Canada would be impossible.

The emphasis on culture in Canada may be comparatively new, but the Women's Institutes are definitely assisting in the development of this trend. One of the convention highlights was an interesting display of these activities. From each province there were creative handicrafts, community history books and interesting paintings. Stories came from Newfoundland about night schools for further academic training. Nova Scotians told of their music festivals, and Albertans of sending scholarship winners to the Banff School of Fine Arts. These are activities by which this national women's organization is helping to build a truly Canadian way of life.—G.P. V



Paintings by W.I. members show varied interests in cultural activities.

'Twas the Day after Christmas

WASN'T Christmas fun? Of course there may be a few marks left from holiday entertaining, but these can be quickly erased.

• CANDLEWAX is a frequent Christmas casualty. If the drops fell on a polished wooden surface, try rubbing the spot with a cloth moistened in gasoline. (Of course, you'll not handle it around an open flame.) Such spots on your table linen require a bit more effort. For colored wax you could scrape off as much of the wax as possible with a dull knife. Then soak in cleaning fluid. If the color from the wax remains, sponge with a mixture of equal parts alcohol and water, or with hydrogen peroxide, and rinse well. For washable fabrics, any remaining color may be removed by sprinkling with sodium perborate and holding over steam, or by dropping a chlorine bleach on the spot. After bleaching, be sure to rinse thoroughly.

• CANDY that Santa brought to the youngsters somehow got stuck on the cushion covers. To remove the candy, sponge with clear, warm water. If a dye or chocolate stain remains, using a mild bleach should help. Sponging with hydrogen peroxide or sprinkling with sodium perborate and holding over steam, followed by thorough rinsing, will usually remove color. If the material is washable, it can be rinsed in warm suds and if necessary use bleach as suggested above.

• AIRPLANE GLUE and LIP-STICK could be two more of those hazardous stains. On cotton fabrics, or any fabrics not containing acetate fibers, the glue may be removed by sponging with acetone or a commercial nail polish remover. Those lipstick stains will disappear if the spots are first sponged with oil of eucalyptus and then washed in warm suds. V

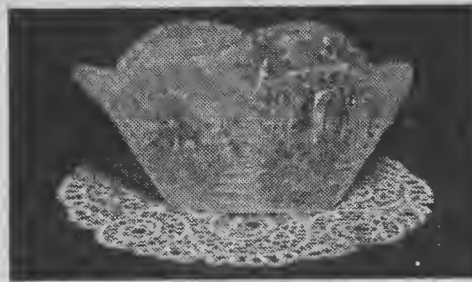
THESE are some of the tasks that belong to a homemaker's list of household duties. We would like to hear about a way that you developed to ease your daily task of homemaking. Perhaps it is the plan for your sewing center, the storage of cleaning equipment for easy accessibility, or a short-cut in your spring cleaning. Whatever you consider your best time and effort saving idea, write and tell us about it. Any of the ideas accepted for publication will be paid for at our usual rates. Address contributions to the Home and Family, The Country Guide, 1760 Ellice Ave., Winnipeg 12, Man.

Don't Throw Those Pretty Cards Away!

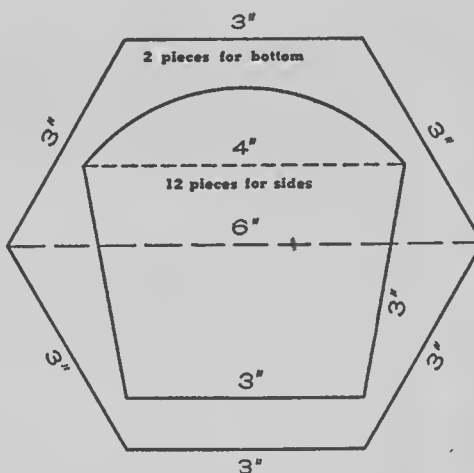
by JEWELL CASEY

DO you hate the thoughts of getting rid of those beautiful Christmas greeting cards, but just don't have any way of keeping them? If so, you will doubtless be glad for some suggestions on ways to use them.

A basket like the one shown here is pretty, it is useful, and it is easily made. It can be used either as a work basket, a bowl for candies or nuts, or as a general "catch-all" for the desk or small table.



Using the drawing as a guide, cut patterns for both the bottom and side pieces from stiff paper. Then cut from among the cards you select, 12 sections for the sides, and 2 for the bottom.



Scale diagram to show the pattern pieces needed for the above basket.

When you have cut out all of the sections, cover the face of each with cellophane paper, either neutral or colored, allowing about one-quarter of an inch for folding back around the edges. Now take two sections, placing them back to back, and bind them together with scotch tape. When you have the six double sections ready, you may either sew or crochet them together. V



Thrift SEASON FARES

are now in effect! Enjoy every shipboard luxury aboard the renowned White Empresses . . . convivial atmosphere . . . enclosed promenade decks . . . as well as world-famous Canadian Pacific service. First class from \$227; Tourist from \$162.

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Jan. 8	Empress of France
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Mar. 11	Empress of Britain
Mar. 21	Empress of France
Apr. 1	Empress of Britain

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Mar. 31 Empress of England

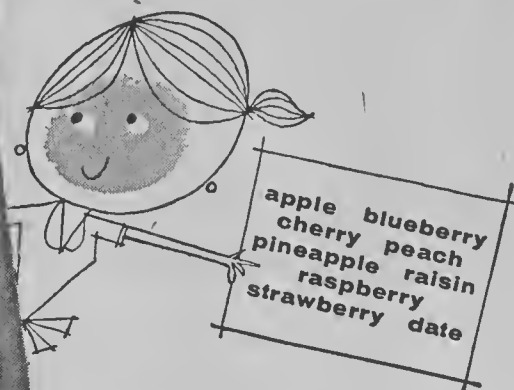
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12N

WILL ALL YOUR CHILDREN BE FARMERS?

How can a farmer provide for all his children on his death when he knows his farm can support only one family in comfort? Even if they all want to be farmers additional land is usually too costly and difficult to obtain.

The best answer to this problem is a life insurance plan that will provide a suitable cash legacy for those children who will not inherit the farm. Then you know your estate will be distributed fairly.

The Man from Manufacturers in your community is a specialist in life insurance for farmers — ask him to show you how this plan can be tailored to fit your particular need.



85-57

THE
MANUFACTURERS LIFE
INSURANCE COMPANY

The Country Guide aims to serve agriculture through practical and timely information and entertaining features for the farm and home. Your comments are always welcome. The address is The Country Guide, 1760 Ellice Ave., Winnipeg 12, Man.

The Role of Color

by ANNA LOREE

No. C-S 559

Couch cushions—increasingly popular as home brighteners—and an imaginative new decorating touch, the crocheted lampshade. Materials required to make the square pillow: 1 foam rubber pillow, 14" square; 2 large button molds; 4 balls Skipper Blue "cronita," 8 balls Skipper Blue cronita metallic thread, No. 2/0 crochet hook. Instructions also included for lampshade cover. Price 10 cents.



REMEMBER the wartime houses? . . . the rows and rows of white frame bungalows that obediently served industrial workers or military personnel? They were homes quite barren in personality, until a few brave souls rebelled against the monotony and painted the exteriors bright yellow, chartreuse, or even pink.

Since that time, color has swept through everyone's home, with each new addition a little more daring than the former.

Background colors are still neutral, but a carefully selected neutral. North and east-facing rooms are given warm-toned walls, such as pale

yellow or salmon pink. Cool greens and grays are popular for south and west exposures, and also are used to make a small room look larger. Rooms in which children do their homework are often decorated with colors that cut down eyestrain by reflecting at least 50 per cent of the light beamed in their direction. These might be apricot beige, lemon yellow, salmon pink, pale green, or light gray.

Against these neutral backgrounds are the bright, bold accents . . . orange cushions on a light-colored chesterfield, purple chaircovers in a blue and gold room, large black and white tiles in the kitchen, bright yellow mats on a dark floor.



No. CN-10

The patchwork quilt—a welcome color note in any modern home. This is the "Colonial Wreath," 91½" x 103½", made up of blocks 22½" square. Materials required: 8½ yards of white 39" wide, 9½ yards of green, 3 yards of red. Each block is

made up of five different units. Patterns are given for half of Unit Nos. 1, 2 and 3; Unit No. 4 is complete; Unit No. 5 is made by drawing two circles inside each other, complete details on instruction leaflet. Price 10 cents.

Address orders to The Country Guide Needlework Department, 1760 Ellice Ave., Winnipeg 12, Man.

For Relaxing

No. 2312—The at-ease coat, a luxury garment fast becoming a regular. Make it from light wool or terry-cloth, or cut it short for a smoking jacket. Sizes: Small (34-36 chest), Medium (38-40), Large (42-44), Extra Large (46-48). Large coat would require $6\frac{1}{8}$ yards 36" fabric. Price 50 cents.

No. 2309—A bed jacket, a shortie and a long nightgown in one pattern, all designed with neat-fitting yoke back and front. Sizes 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 40, 42. Size 20 in long style requires $5\frac{3}{4}$ yards 36" fabric. Price 35 cents.

No. 4260 — Smart lines, neat appearance — extra qualities of this action-free one-piece dress with bias under-arm inset that lets you reach or stretch, and fits the body when arm is relaxed. Sizes: 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 40, 42, 44, 46. Size 40 requires 5 yards 35" fabric. Price 35 cents.



2309

4260

No. 2290—Pattern contains instructions for toddlers' two-piece pyjamas and a robe. Latter has peter pan collar, high button neckline, tie belt, pockets, long sleeves. Sizes: $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, 2, 3. Price 50 cents.

No. 2315—Three in one—a crisp tucked-yoke blouse, full skirt, and slim-jim lounge pants, in one pattern packet. Sizes 10, 12, 14, 16. In size 16, blouse requires $2\frac{3}{8}$ yards, skirt 3 yards, pants $2\frac{1}{2}$ yards, 36" fabric. Price 50 cents.



2315

2290



2312

The Country Boy and Girl

Gifts for The Travers

by JACK W. HANKINS

"WHAT are you looking for, dear?" Bob's mother asked.

"For a bigger dish for Lady," he answered, peering into the roomy cupboards of the old farm kitchen.

"But what's wrong with the one you've been using?"

"It . . . it's not very big, and tonight's Christmas Eve, so I thought . . ."

"Oh, that old cat. If she would come to the house, she'd get more to eat. Besides, she can catch as many mice as she needs out there in the shed."

"But, Mom . . ."

Mother smiled, and Bob knew she would help him find a larger dish for Lady. But just then the phone rang. Waiting, Bob wished Lady would stay in the house as she used to. For more than a month now, she had stayed out in the shed most of the time.

"That was Mrs. Travers," reported mother, returning from the telephone. "They have been so busy moving into that old house that they haven't had time to put up a Christmas tree. She wondered if they could bring the children over to see yours?"

Bob's eyes lighted. "All of them?"

"All six children and Mr. and Mrs. Travers."

Bob grinned. "That will be swell. Now, if I can just get a bigger dish for Lady . . ."

But his mother told him she couldn't look for one now. They had to see if

they could find presents for the Travers children.

Bob and his mother searched the house, but they could only find a few items which might be used as presents, so they decided to fill stockings with candy and oranges and popcorn balls and nuts for the Travers children.

After supper, Bob stood at the window to watch for the visitors. When at last they arrived, the children stood and looked at one another shyly for a while, occasionally grinning from ear to ear. We're going to have great fun, thought Bob, as he helped them off with their coats.

Then his mother opened the door to the living room and everyone trooped in to see the tree. The Travers children's eyes were aglow with delight. The tree lights sparkled and shimmered, and showed up the pretty gift packages and bulging Christmas stockings.

BUT then Bob began to feel unhappy. After the Christmas stockings had been given the Travers children, there weren't any presents for them. And he kept getting more and more himself. As soon as he opened a present, he would hand it to the Travers children to admire or play with, but that didn't help much.

Sitting back from the tree, Bob stared gloomily. Unhappy on Christmas Eve. He wondered if anybody else was. Then he remembered Lady. He'd forgotten all about getting a larger dish for her. He got up, went to the kitchen, found a pan bigger than the one she had been using, and a flashlight, and quietly let himself out the kitchen door. It would take only a

Little children wake and listen!

Songs are breaking o'er the earth.

While the stars in heaven glisten

Hear the news of Jesus' birth.

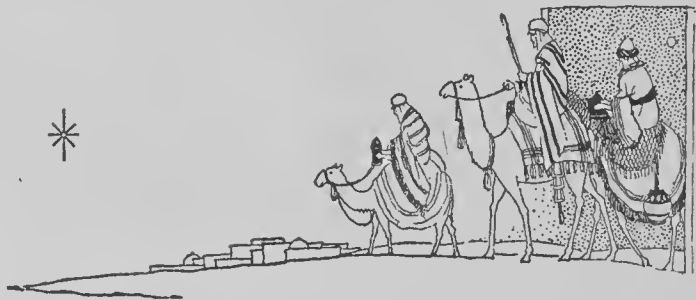
Long ago to lonely meadows

Angels brought the message down

Still each year through midnight shadows

It is heard in every town.

—Author Unknown



or table. The figures of Joseph and Mary stand close to the Christ Child. Near by kneel three Wise Men, bringing gifts to the newborn King. In the background are the shepherds who followed a wonderful star to the birthplace of the Christ Child. The animals in the stable curiously watch this scene of the first Christmas the world had known. Today we observe the birthday of Jesus by giving gifts to those in need and those we love.

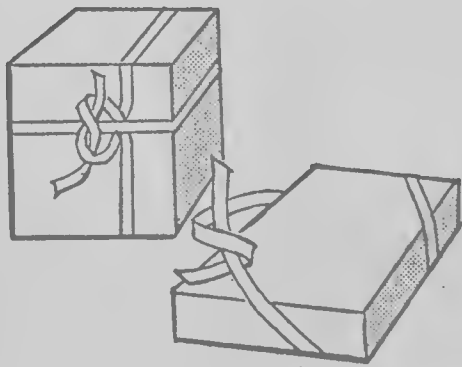
My best wishes for a MERRY CHRISTMAS, boys and girls.

Ann Sankey

Let's Wrap Presents

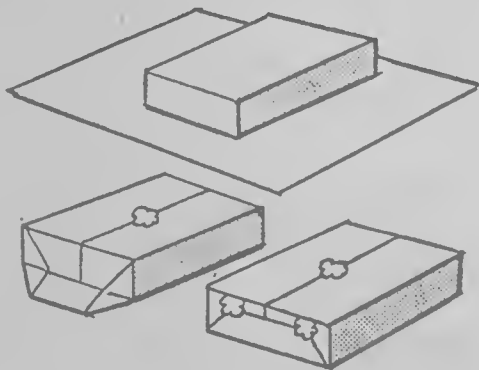
DO you think you could do your own gift-wrapping this Christmas? Here are a few simple diagrams and instructions.

To wrap rectangular packages: Place gift on paper (as shown below) so that when the paper is folded over to meet there will be a two-inch overlap. If there is more than this, cut off the excess with scissors. Seal with a sticker or tape. Cut the paper at the ends so they are just a little shorter than the depth of the box. Fold upper part of end down against box end. Hold in place while you turn the corners in, against box end (as shown). Fold lower flap up. Seal.



Criss-Cross tie (above left): Hold one end of ribbon on top of box. With the other hand wind ribbon around box lengthwise, cross over at starting point, and turn the ribbon and wind around width, bringing it back to the start. Knot the ends here. As this sometimes takes a bit of practice to tie properly, use a piece of string the first few times, so your fancy ribbon does not become mused or crushed.

Corner-Cross (above): Hold ribbon at one corner. With other hand wind ribbon in clockwise direction—over a corner, under the next, over, then under and back to the starting point. Tie ends together.



minute, but he didn't want Lady unhappy too, on Christmas Eve.

But it was more than a minute before he returned. And he came back carrying a basket.

"Look what Santa Claus left you!" he cried to the Travers boys and girls as he rushed into the living room and put the basket down.

"Kittens!" the Travers children squealed, gathered 'round the basket. "Cute wee kittens!"

"One for each of you, and one left for Lady!" Bob stated, eagerly handing them out.

Now no one was sad. The children played with their kittens, and ate candy and popcorn balls. Even Mr. and Mrs. Travers seemed happy; there were so many mice in the old house, they said, that they would need every last one of the kittens to help get rid of them.

AFTER everyone had gone home, Bob looked at Lady and suddenly felt sad. Just she and one little kitten lay in the basket. "I shouldn't have given her babies away, should I?"

His mother tousled his hair, gently, "Of course you should have, dear."

And his father said, "We were wondering what we were going to do with them."

"You knew?" Bob asked, in surprise.

His parents nodded. "We knew Lady had kittens somewhere in the shed. We didn't want you to know about them because we had to get rid of them, and you'd feel badly."

Bob looked at Lady. She was licking her one kitten. She did look happy. A big grin came onto his face as Bob watched her. "Maybe she brought out her kittens when I gave her milk tonight because she knew it was Christmas Eve. And maybe she's

happy because she made so many people happy."

His mother smiled. "She wouldn't have had a chance to make anyone happy if you hadn't been thoughtful of her—even on Christmas Eve." ✓

Music 'Round the Tree

WHAT will the boys and girls who come to your place for Christmas dinner do afterward for amusement? How about forming a family orchestra? Perhaps someone in the group can play the piano, violin or guitar, but there are plenty of other instruments for children who have not studied music, for example:

Tinklers: Line up on a table at least seven different size bottles and tumblers. Pour varying amounts of water in each, and play them by tapping the edges with a silver spoon.

Hummers: Place cigarette or tissue paper over a comb, and play it like a mouthorgan, humming a tune as you do so.

Chatterers: Place beans in old cat-sup bottles and shake in time to the music.

Washboard: Strum a washboard with the fingers. This gives the orchestra a fine rhythm.

Saw: Grip the handle between the knees, and hold blade end with one hand, while tapping the blade with a wooden spoon. By bending the saw different tones can be achieved.

Drums: Better ask Mom's permission before banging away on pie plates and pots and pans with a spoon. Perhaps it would be wiser to just tap jar lids with thimbles.

Whistles: Let someone blow on the mouth of an empty soft drink or cat-sup bottle. A low, musical whistle will be the result.

Play all your favorite tunes. ✓

Young People

On the farm and at home



Each member of a family contributes toward making a happy Christmas season. The young people enjoy the task of bringing home the Christmas tree.

Ports of Call

IN Canada, some 73,483 members are united under the steadfast motto, "Learn to do, by doing." We'll stop for a short visit with a few of the clubs.

Congratulations Newfoundland on adding a new project to the list of 4-H activities! "Catching and Curing the Cod" is the name of their new fishing project, the first of its kind in Canada.

Hello Prince Charles Club in Yarmouth County, Nova Scotia! Members wished to have a place to hold meetings and came up with the idea of purchasing a vacant school. The municipality admired their spunk, and sold them the building for \$1. Then began the work of cleaning grounds, decorating the building and finally having it wired for electricity. We think your idea will spread across the country.

Members of the 4-H Clubs of Simcoe, Ont., were granted a special 4-H radio day. Station CFRS turned over an entire day's program to their activities. The "day" commenced with Mr. J. Richards, associate agricultural representative for Norfolk County, outlining the history and objectives of 4-H, and the responsibilities of club

members. Then club members themselves took part by explaining various projects such as calf, clothing and food.

Saskatchewan clubs came up with some "firsts" too. They held the first 4-H radio broadcast competition in Canada. They formed their first 4-H Club Council. Saskatchewan clubs also held their first dress revue at the Regina Exhibition. V

Researcher In Cereal Breeding

No. 6—Careers in Agriculture

THE word "research" generally conjures up visions of a white-coated figure, a trifle disheveled and wild-eyed, bending over an intricate mass of glass tubing, retorts, and other scientific apparatus. He spends his time poking his nose into a test tube and jotting down reams of mysterious notes.

Researcher Dr. J. E. (Ed) Andrews, cerealist at the Lethbridge Experimental Farm, does wear a white coat, jots down lots of notes, and often peers into a test tube. But here the similarity ends. Ed is married, has two boys and a girl, and takes an

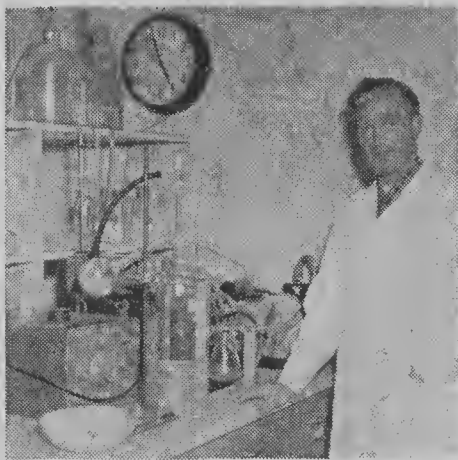
active part in outside activities. Last year he was district director of the Kinsmen's Club, is a director of the Lethbridge club this year, and also president of the local branch of the Agricultural Institute of Canada.

Ed Andrews was raised on a farm near Selkirk, Man. On his discharge from the Air Force at the end of World War II, he enrolled for an agricultural course at the University of Manitoba.

It was while doing summer work at the Rust Research Laboratory, Winnipeg, that Ed first became interested in research.

WHEN Ed graduated in 1949, he started work at the Winnipeg laboratory, where he remained until he was moved west to Lethbridge in 1951. Obtaining leave of absence from the Experimental Farms Service during his first winter, Ed earned his Master of Science degree from Minnesota in 1950 and his doctor's degree (Ph.D.) three years later. Because cereal breeding was his main interest, he majored in genetics, and minored in plant pathology.

As a cerealist at the Lethbridge Experimental Farm, Dr. Andrews' main work is connected with developing new varieties of winter wheat. The biggest problem here is winter-killing



[Guide photo

Dr. Ed Andrews, Lethbridge, works at developing varieties of winter wheat.

so the researcher has to breed toward winter hardiness.

Any would-be scientist must be a person with an enquiring mind, interested in new developments. He should be a better-than-average student, for his work will require basic studies in a wide range of subjects. But above all, the researcher should be an individualist. The history of science is full of cases where important discoveries have come by following lines of procedure which others scoffed at.—C.V.F. V



THE NAME

LANDRACE

is merely a name and the stock must live up to the breed's high reputation. That is why we have set out to make "Fergus" stand for the best in Landrace. If you want to start a Landrace herd or improve your herd by introducing better sires or dams, you cannot do better than buy Fergus Landrace Stock. Just received another importation of 3 Champion in-Pig Landrace Sows. Offer weanlings, four-month, six-month old sows and boars, serviceable boars, guaranteed in-pig sows and gilts. Catalogue.

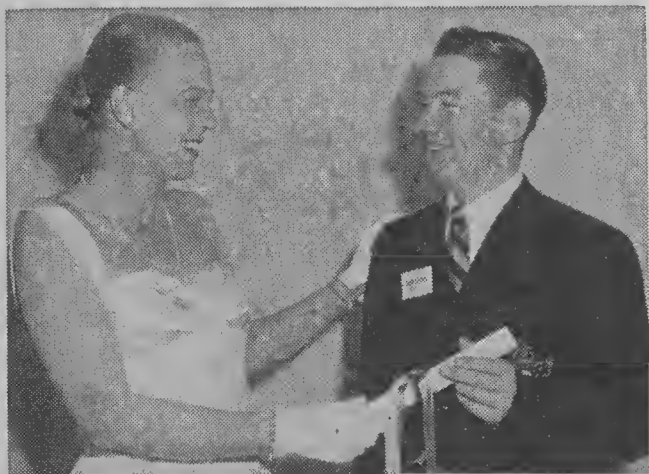
Fergus Landrace Swine Farm
FERGUS ONTARIO



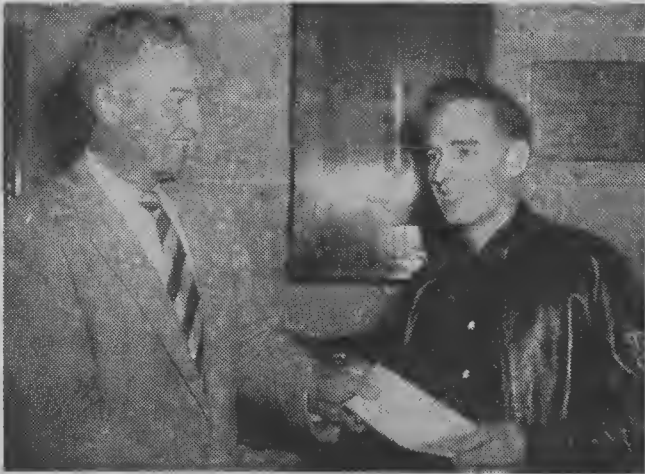
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Scholarship Winners



Mrs. Frank McEachren presents Eaton Agricultural Scholarship to Harold Coffin, Cherry Hill, P.E.I.



Albert Smith, Prince William, N.B., receives Canada Packers Foundation Scholarship from W. S. Kilmer.

THE *Country* GUIDE

with which is incorporated
THE NOR'-WEST FARMER and FARM AND HOME
Serving Canadian Farmers Since 1882

VOL LXXVI WINNIPEG, DECEMBER 1957 No. 12

Agriculture Prospects

All the dynamic factors point to a period of growth and development and to shifts in production which will lend greater stability to the industry. While agriculture will have its ups and downs, over the long period the forces are favorable to higher and more stable farm incomes. In this setting, it would appear that the activities of governments in relation to the industry should facilitate rather than direct; remain flexible, to meet short-run difficulties, without introducing permanent rigidities; and display wisdom to avoid doing those things which should not be done, as well as to stand ready to promote the welfare of the large number of Canadians who will remain dependent on agricultural production.

This optimism and advice is quoted from the Gordon Commission report on "Progress and Prospects of Canadian Agriculture," which was released in November. The full report is the work of several agricultural economists, headed by Dr. W. M. Drummond of the Ontario Agricultural College, and Wm. MacKenzie of the University of Alberta. The task of these two men and their colleagues was to attempt to determine and describe the way in which the agricultural industry in Canada will develop during the next 25 years.

The report begins with an analysis of the changes in the output and organization of the agricultural industry over the past 25 years, which was used as a basis for predicting future prospects between 1955 and 1965, and between 1965 and 1980. It is evident from the study of what has taken place since 1941, and particularly since 1946, that farming in Canada has been undergoing important and dynamic changes. Since 1941 the area of farms has hardly altered, but the number of farms and the farm labor force have declined by 21 and 30 per cent, respectively. During the same period output has increased 25 per cent per acre, and 44 per cent per farm. Between 1946 and 1955 the physical volume of output increased by 30 per cent and output per man-hour by almost 75 per cent. This, of course, was made possible in large measure by the reorganization of farm boundaries resulting in larger and more efficient farms, the much greater use of machines and equipment, the more widespread application of new techniques and the findings of science, and the carrying of larger numbers of livestock. The report suggests that these trends will continue. This means, of course, that farmers who run their businesses without help of any kind are likely to become more commonplace, and, that agriculture and other industries will become more interdependent.

Turning to the demand for Canadian farm products, the outstanding point brought out is that the market for meat and meat products and for eggs will be strong throughout the next 25-year period, and it will gain strength as the period lengthens. The estimates indicate that by 1965, total domestic consumption of each of red meats, poultry meat and eggs will be up by about 40 per cent, and that by 1980 the consumption of these same products will have doubled. In general, demand for all major farm products will increase with rising population and real incomes. Hence, Canadian farmers, with the exception of wheat producers, will become less concerned with export markets. The report suggests that wheat exports will rise slowly, if at all, but are unlikely to fall.

One of the highlights of the report to our mind is the approach taken to farm income. A serious attempt has been made to differentiate between full-scale (commercial), small-scale and part-time farms and the income problems of each. The study reveals that full-scale farms (those with gross sales in excess of \$1,200), amounting to 62 per cent of

the total number of farms in Canada, account for 93 per cent of the total sales of farm products, and that, in contrast, part-time and small-scale farms, nearly 38 per cent of all farms, account for less than 7 per cent of the total sales. As might be expected, average net incomes from agricultural operations on full-scale farms are appreciably higher than the average net incomes for all farms. For all Canada, full-scale operations returned an annual net farm income of just under \$4,200 per farm in the period 1951 to 1955, which was 50 per cent higher than the all-farm average of nearly \$2,800. This is not intended to mean that all full-scale farms enjoyed a satisfactory level of income in the period. Nevertheless, the study suggests, and we concur, that the income problems of the full-scale, small-scale and part-time farm require separate consideration and treatment. In dealing with income problems, which undoubtedly will persist, both farm organizations and governments should not lose sight of this fact.

The final part of the report is devoted to the problems of production and income. No attempt is made to present clear-cut and incontrovertible conclusions regarding appropriate methods of reducing or eliminating the conditions which give rise to the problems, but rather to present some suggestions which, in the opinion of the authors, warrant consideration.

To meet the problems, they support and underline the need for the maintenance of a national effort in agricultural research; a wider development of the management approach to problems of the individual farm business; the supplying of information and outlook services to agriculture; the con-

tinuation of the rearrangement of land holdings to reduce still further the number of farms; modifications in conditions for securing farm credit; and the continuation of a flexible price support system. They believe that the family farm is not inconsistent with the efficient use of resources, and that given a reasonable rate of improvement in technology, the available resources will permit producers to meet the expanding requirements without undue difficulty. They, therefore, question the need for governments to become involved in the costly extension of agricultural settlement, or to induce increased production by large-scale public investment in land improvement. Such programs, they argue, could have the effect of upsetting the balance between production and demand, and lead to depressed prices and incomes.

Irrespective of whether we agree in total with the findings, and we have some reservations, this has been a worthwhile undertaking. The study has brought into focus a comprehensive picture of the agricultural industry as a whole, which can go a long way toward offsetting a fairly general lack of knowledge and understanding of the industry. Moreover, it has undoubtedly provided some broad conclusions about future prospects which will prove of value in shaping the industry's future. We think the authors have underestimated the rapidity with which the changes in agriculture are taking place, and have given too little attention to the impact on the industry of such factors as contract farming and vertical integration. However, we can hope, along with them, that the forces favorable to higher and more stable farm incomes materialize. V

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to Our Readers

Christmas Values

CHRISTMASTIME is upon us once again with all its spiritual meaning and special magic. Of the many events that crowd into our lives, it is undoubtedly the most stirring and happiest of the year. It tends to provide a recess from the restless struggle of life, and a brief interlude from the daily routine.

Our thoughts inevitably turn to family, home and friends, and above all else, to the Christ Child and the most beautiful and significant story of the ages. Families whose members have been dispersed are reunited in a joyous state of companionship, or are remembered by gifts and messages of love and good wishes. Recollections of friends, both new and old, are awakened, and create in us a desire to reach out the hand of comradeship and good will. Homes and communities take on an air of excitement and anticipation. Children, especially, enjoy the pure delight associated with the season. Adults are often deeply moved by the pleasures and shining eyes of little ones. A few days are filled with carol singing, merry voices, smiling faces, laughter and love. Christmas is indeed a time of friendship, neighborliness, contentment and peace. It is a wonderful thing to observe and to keep Christmas in the traditional way.

Yet, Christmases have come and gone and the world around us did not seem to be much different from what it was before. If this is true, we wonder whether it is because too few of us take time, in the atmosphere of the Christmas season, to assess our sense of values. Perhaps our general frame of mind at this time of year makes it appropriate that we should.

Do we carry the Christmas spirit into the days, weeks and months that lie beyond, or do we set it aside to be used again next year? Do we think about the deeds we can perform for others, or do we associate only with those who can do the most for us? Do we adopt the attitude that the country owes us a living, or do we consider the opportunities that are here and what we owe to the country?

Do we supplement our daily living with inspired writings, art, and music of the ages, or do we fritter away our leisure hours with pulp magazines, soap operas, and the senseless moanings of an Elvis Presley? Do we support our church and



[Eva Luoma photo]

charities in keeping with our means, or do we let George do it? Do we stand aloof and criticize our organizations and governments without full knowledge of their intentions and sincerity of purpose, or do we exert what influence we can by participating to the best of our ability in the things which concern us as individuals, and as members of society?

These are but a few of the many questions we might all try to answer for ourselves in a quiet moment of the Christmas season. And you might say, "What can I do to direct the destinies of mankind?" But it does matter what you think and do! Our society is made up of people. What each of us thinks and does individually and collectively will be reflected in what happens in our own country, and to some extent in the rest of the world.

Yes! With the daily news that reaches all of us about the battle for men's minds; about sputniks and muttniks, inequalities and persecutions, slavery and social prejudices; the precarious position of peace in our time—we can all afford to do some sober reflection this Christmas on the state of our own values and the place we hold in the thread of life. V

Watching the Winter Birds

by IRENE HARRISON

MORE and more people are taking up bird watching as a hobby. It has its rewards, in interest, health and knowledge. Although bird watching is a hobby which is enjoyed by people of all ages, it is particularly rewarding to the young. Many children, however, have a full schedule with school, work and sports activities, which does not leave them much time for long walks in the woods with notebook and binoculars. Still, busy youngsters may make a start with winter birds.

A homemade feeding station will bring the birds near enough to be watched from the house. The feeding station may be very simple. A wide shelf nailed to an outside window ledge of the house, with a rim about it to keep the weed seeds from blowing away, is quite satisfactory.

In fact, I know one small lad who tied bits of suet to the branches of a discarded Christmas tree and stood it in the snow outside of his window. A few mornings later, with his nose flattened against the windowpane, he was rewarded by seeing a woodpecker, its red cap glistening in the sun, partaking of his food offerings. From that moment on, he was an ardent bird watcher.

A more elaborate feeding station may be built from scraps of lumber to resemble a small square cottage with open sides, but with a roof for shelter. I devised a self-feeder from a jam tin with a tight lid. The tin was first filled with weed seeds and cracked grain. Then a hole was made on either side about as big as a dime. When turned upside down in the feeding station, the grain runs out the holes as it is eaten. This prevents wastage.

Suet or fat are good things to keep in the feeding station. However, they should be wired down to prevent the greedy magpies and bluejays from carrying them away.

If the station is placed some distance from the house until the birds become accustomed to it and its offerings, and then brought a few steps nearer each day, the birds will soon be close to the house.

The red-breasted grosbeak is one of the showiest of the winter birds. It belongs to the seed-eating type and likes nothing better than to discover a maple tree covered with brown-winged seed coverings. Some evening, just at dusk, you will be thrilled to see a flock of grosbeaks descend noisily upon your feeding station. From then on they will probably pay a call at the same time each evening.

They say that "a word to the wise is sufficient," so that I should add a word of caution here. Winter birds, once the habit is established, become strangely dependent upon humans for their food. Therefore the feeding, once started, must be maintained until the spring sun melts the sheath of ice and snow which covers the ground. ✓

Festive as the Holiday Season!



Magic Christmas Cake

- 2 cups seedless raisins
- 1 cup currants
- 1 1/2 cups separated seeded raisins
- 1 1/2 cups drained red maraschino or candied cherries (or a mixture of red cherries and green candied cherries)
- 1 cup almonds
- 1 cup cut-up pitted dates
- 1 1/2 cups slivered or chopped mixed candied peels and citron
- 1/2 cup cut-up candied pineapple or other candied fruits
- 1 tbsp. finely-chopped candied ginger
- 3 cups sifted pastry flour or 2 3/4 cups sifted hard-wheat flour
- 1 1/2 tsps. Magic Baking Powder
- 3/4 tsp. salt
- 1 1/2 tsps. ground cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp. grated nutmeg
- 1/2 tsp. ground ginger
- 1/4 tsp. ground mace
- 1/4 tsp. ground cloves
- 1 cup butter
- 1 1/4 cups lightly-packed brown sugar
- 6 eggs
- 1/4 cup molasses
- 1/3 cup cold strong coffee

Wash and dry the seedless raisins and currants. Wash and dry the seeded raisins, if necessary, and cut into halves. Cut cherries into halves. Blanch the almonds and cut into halves. Prepare the dates, peels and citron, candied pineapple or other fruits, and ginger.

Sift together 3 times, the flour, Magic Baking Powder, salt, cinnamon, nutmeg, ginger, mace and cloves; add prepared fruits and nuts, a few at a time, mixing until fruits are separated and coated with flour.

Cream the butter; gradually blend in the sugar. Add unbeaten eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition; stir in molasses. Add flour mixture to creamed mixture alternately with coffee, combining thoroughly after each addition. Turn batter into a deep 8-inch square cake pan that has been lined with three layers of heavy paper and the top layer greased with butter; spread evenly.

Bake in a slow oven, 300°, 2 3/4 to 3 hours. Let cake stand in its pan on a cake cooler until cold. Store in a crock, or wrap in waxed paper and store in a tin.

A few days before cake is to be cut, top with almond paste and ornamental icing; just before cutting, cake may be decorated attractively.

A glorious Christmas Cake you'll be proud to serve . . . because you made it *yourself*! Here's tender fruit cake laden with sumptuous fruits, nuts and candied peel . . . every fine ingredient protected with Magic to give you a superb cake every time! Bake one for the family . . . and several for holiday gifts. It's easy when you make it with Magic!



SYMBOL OF A

Happy
Christmas

IT is the happy and appropriate custom in
thousands of Western farm homes—as it is in
homes throughout the Christian world—to
decorate the Christmas tree with Christmas
Cards received from far and near: message
of love and good will; and, at the tree's base,
to place gifts, symbolic of the most precious
gift of all: the Sacred Birth of Christ the Saviour.

*On behalf of the Board of Directors, Management and Staff of United Grain Growers Limited
I extend to all farmers and their families the
Season's Greetings.*

E. H. Howdieshell

President and General Manager

UNITED GRAIN GROWERS LIMITED

SERVING WESTERN FARMERS AND FARM HOMES FOR OVER FIFTY YEARS—1906-1957